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Keegan: Central figure

Cup teams threaten to 'strike'

Liverpool and Newcastle will refuse to play their FA Cup matches on Friday, January 6 if television cameras are present. The BBC want to screen the third round tie live but both clubs want the Football Association to increase the Professional Footballers' Association share of the television proceeds from the current offer of £40,000.

Pound closes at record low

The pound fell further against the dollar, closing at a record low of \$1.4310, down 45 points, but it was firmer against other currencies.

New-look QE2

The Queen Elizabeth 2 sailed last night from Bremerhaven to Southampton after her 15-day £3.5m refit at the Hapag-Lloyd yard.

Solicitors' vote

MPs who are also solicitors will be allowed to vote on the controversial Bill to end the solicitors' monopoly on conveying the Speaker has ruled.

CD clampdown

Measures to reduce the number of diplomatic service cars evading fixed penalties and when clamping through claiming immunity have been announced.

Glue-sniff case

Two brothers who sold glue-sniffing kits to children were each jailed for three years after a court ruling that such sales were a crime in Scotland.

The go-between

Portugal has offered to act as a go-between for Argentina and Britain in negotiations about the future of the Falklands.

BL goes private

The Government is to begin privatizing BL next year, the Commons was told.

Salyut trouble

The Salyut 7 space station suffered a fuel leak and its two-man crew had a narrow escape during their recent 149-day flight, Soviet officials admitted.

Whitehall Brief, page 20

Leader page, 13

Letters: On Airbus, from Mr P E G Bates; NGA dispute, from Mr D M Nathan; archives, from Mr H Speak.

Leading articles: Kuwait, Gibraltar

Features, pages 8, 10, 12: Could the kamikaze bombers come to London? The question mark over Britain's Beirut contingent; Mushroom clouds and video nasties; Spectrum; Mosley and the Jews. Fashion: the style of Jennifer Hall.

Obituary, page 14

General Sir Neil Ritchie

Computer Horizons announces its national computer competition for 1984, explains the significance of the computerisation of Hansard, and reports on plans to introduce 1,500 micro-computers into the Foreign Office.

Pages 18, 19

Home News, 2, 3

Law Report, 21; Parliament, 4; Prem Bonds, 14; Sale Room, 2; Science, 14; Sport, 22-24; TV & Radio, 27; Theatres, etc, 27; Universities, 28; Weather, 28.

Court orders NGA to call off its nationwide strike

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Graphical Association was ordered by a High Court judge yesterday to call off the nationwide newspaper strike called for tomorrow in protest at the £525,000 contempt of court fine imposed on it last week.

The print union also faces a mass of claims for damages if the strike goes ahead from newspaper managements all over Britain which could cost it millions of pounds.

Mr Joe Wade, the NGA general secretary, was last night asking the TUC for full backing for the strike. In continuing defiance of the Government's labour laws.

If the strike takes place tomorrow the fines for contempt of yesterday's order and the awards for damages could bankrupt the union.

Solicitors and High Court officials arrived at Congress House with writs to serve on Mr Joe Wade, but they were refused access to the union meeting.

The NGA, which has already been fined a total of £675,000 for contempt of orders not to picket the Warrington, Cheshire, printing works of Mr Selim (Eddie) Shah's Messenger group newspapers, appeared to be losing some of its hard-line resolve in the 24-week-old closed shop dispute.

The print workers last night asked for an unequivocal declaration of support from the TUC's influential employment policy and organization committee, but if that backing is not forthcoming the NGA national council might today reconsider its confrontationalist policy.

Leaders of other unions going into the meeting declined to discuss the issue publicly but some were privately sceptical about the NGA's chances of winning the level of TUC backing that it apparently wants before embarking on its disruption of the newspaper industry.

Parallels were being drawn with the two-year battle waged by Times Newspapers last night issued the following statement: "Times Newspapers Ltd and News Group Newspapers Ltd have tonight obtained a mandatory injunction requiring the NGA general secretary and national council to withdraw their instruction given to employees at TNL and NGNL to take industrial action."

"The terms of the court order specifically require the defendants to give immediate notice that they have issued an instruction for the strike call to be withdrawn."

"The instruction the NGA is required to give must be put in writing to the Press Association by 10pm tonight (Monday) and it must be confirmed subsequently in writing to the chapel and/or to the London region of the NGA."

by the NGA to win recognition and a closed shop at T Bailey Forman, publishers of the Nottingham Evening Post, which the union had to give up after spending tens of thousands of pounds.

The NGA came under intense pressure throughout the day to drop its total boycott of the 1980 and 1982 Employment Acts which led to the union's refusal to abide by orders made in the High Court in Manchester not to engage in secondary picketing against Mr Shah's printing works.

In the High Court Mr Justice Otton granted orders sought by national and local newspaper groups restraining the NGA from "further inducing breaches of contracts" by its members in Fleet Street and the provinces.

In the House of Commons the Employment Secretary, Mr Tom King, made it clear that the Government would not intervene in the dispute. He spoke of "the serious consequences" that the threatened strike would have for the NGA itself, adding: "I hope that they will no longer seek to pursue this dispute in defiance of the law."

Mr Robert Stuby, president of the Newspaper Society, which represents owners of more than 1,000 provincial titles, calculated that the provincial industry would lose up to £3m if the strike call was obeyed. He indicated that provincial publishers would seek damages for that amount.

Members of the NPA are already claiming a total of £3m damages for disruption two weeks ago and the loss of another day's production could double their suit. Taken with the huge fines already levied, the court actions could bankrupt the NGA of its total, sequestered, funds of a little more than £10m.

Regional response, page 2
Parliament, page 4



Brave face: Scottish nanny Carol Compton struggles to be cheerful as she appears in a barred Italian dock charged with arson and attempted murder.

Nanny trial starts in uproar

From Peter Nichols, Livorno, Italy

The trial of Carol Compton, the 21-year-old Scottish nanny charged with arson and attempted murder, began yesterday with her struggling to make an Italian court understand her own account of the chain of circumstances which landed her in trouble.

There were chaotic scenes before she was able to begin her testimony. When she was led into a locked cage which serves as a dock in Italy, the 60 journalists present leapt on to tables and pushed past policemen to get near her.

Despite court orders forbidding photography, cameras whirled and clicked. The Court President stalked out and could be heard shouting at officials to restore order before he would begin.

Miss Compton has been in custody since August 1982. Her mother, Mrs Pamela Compton, has accused Italian authorities of keeping her daughter in isolation because they suspect her of witchcraft.

Señor Sergio Minervini, defending counsel, persuaded the court to allow her to sit outside the metal cage once proceedings began.

The first moving view of her was nevertheless her appearance alone in the huge cage, a self-possessed figure smiling and assuring well-wishers that she was feeling fine.

She knelt down to kiss her mother between the wooden columns below the bars.

She was accused of having started five fires in three different houses with intention in one instance of killing a three-year-old girl in her charge. She denies having started any of the fires.

Describing the most serious incident in her heavy Scottish accent brought some of the worst language difficulties.

Talking of stray cats scratching on French windows she could not get across what sort of windows she was talking about nor what she meant by "rogue" cats.

Her "cot" apparently sounded like "coat" which was then translated as a blanket. Similarly her assertion that the noise made her nervous was translated as "nervosa", which means bad-tempered.

On several occasions she showed signs of impatience. The case continues today.

Call for more places on youth team

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Government is to be asked to approve changes next year to the Youth Training Scheme that would go some way towards reaching the original target of providing places for 460,000 unemployed youngsters.

But it is unlikely that extra funds will be made available. A meeting of the Manpower Services Commission tomorrow is expected to approve proposals which place emphasis on providing more places for unemployed 17-year-olds, although the commission will still be able to guarantee places only to 16-year-olds.

The proposals for the scheme's second year starting in September are contained in an internal paper to be presented today to a meeting of the Youth Training Board. The board advises the MSC youth training and is likely to accept plans for extending the scheme to more 17-year-olds.

The scheme will, according to the paper, provide places this year for about 350,000 youngsters. Better marketing of the scheme to young people and their parents would increase take-up.

There were, it says, particular difficulties this year, and a growth in take-up next year of places might be expected. However, discussions with officials at local level suggested that, without changes in the rules, the number of youngsters on the scheme would not exceed 400,000.

A better balance is suggested, with a shift away from the present Young Worker Scheme. This would make available places for another 25,000 youngsters. The young workers scheme makes available to employers funds to top up the pay of youngsters earnings less than £40 a week.

The paper says that there was uncertainty attached to estimating the number of youngsters likely to join the scheme next year and that meant the MSC would be able to guarantee places only to 16-year-old school-leavers.

The paper does not refer to future government funding of the scheme, but it is likely that ministers will be reluctant to authorize any significant increase in expenditure.

The original cost was £1,000m, but that is expected to be reduced to about £800m because of the shortfall in the take-up of places.

Young people have been reluctant to join schemes operated by local authorities and colleges of further education.

The paper predicts that this trend will continue: there will be a constant demand by youngsters to join schemes operated by private sector employers.

The MSC is at the moment coming under pressure from local authorities and further education establishments to provide refunds to cover the cost of unfilled places for which the authorities have budgeted.

Kuwait bombs blamed on Iran

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

American embassies throughout the Middle East were last night warned that they could be the target of suicide bombers after Shia Muslim extremists believed to be acting on orders from Iran staged a concerted bombing attack on six buildings in Kuwait.

The US and French embassies, on American residential quarter of Kuwait, a power station and the control tower of the international airport were all targets of the attack, which was unprecedented in the Gulf.

It was clearly intended to strike a blow at the stability of the oil kingdoms and last night Kuwait promised the "maximum punishments" for those responsible.

One of the bombers, who was blown across the road in front of the American Embassy after driving a lorry loaded with explosives through the main gate of the compound, survived surgery last night while Kuwaiti security authorities waited to discover his identity.

About 60,000 Iranians live in Kuwait under close scrutiny by the state police. The Americans last night believed that the Iranian Government was probably behind the assault.

Both the United States and France had apparently received warning that some attack was to be made upon their embassies but assumed it would occur in Beirut where embassy security has been substantially increased over the past two days.

Given the amount of explosives used, it was remarkable that only four people were killed and 54 wounded, although the bombs, which all detonated in the space of about an hour, were obviously meant to cause far greater casualties.

Two of the dead were Kuwaiti security guards employed by the American Embassy; a third was a technician who worked at the airport.

The bombing at the American Embassy followed an almost identical pattern to those in Beirut last October which killed almost 300 US Marines and French paratroopers. And like those attacks, yesterday's explosions in Kuwait were almost immediately claimed by a telephone caller who rang Agence France Presse in Beirut to say that he represented the Islamic Jihad (Islamic Struggle) movement which announced that it had bombed the Americans and French two months ago.

The Kuwait attacks were both an indication of growing anti-American sentiment in the Middle East and of the vulnerability of the militarily weak Gulf states who fear that Iran's revolution might at last be about to spread southwards to embrace the largely Sunni

Continued on back page, col 3

Greece to safeguard Britons' land

From Mario Modiano, Athens

The Greek Government wants to reassure about 1,000 Britons, who acquired property on the island of Corfu, circumventing a 1927 ban on sales of land to foreigners in frontier areas, that they will not be dispossessed or penalized.

Professor George Kassamatis, legal adviser to Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister, told *The Times*: "The Prime Minister's wish and order are that this problem should be resolved promptly."

The professor, who is coordinating inter-ministerial action on this issue, said a special ministerial council would meet within a few days to recommend changes in the law.

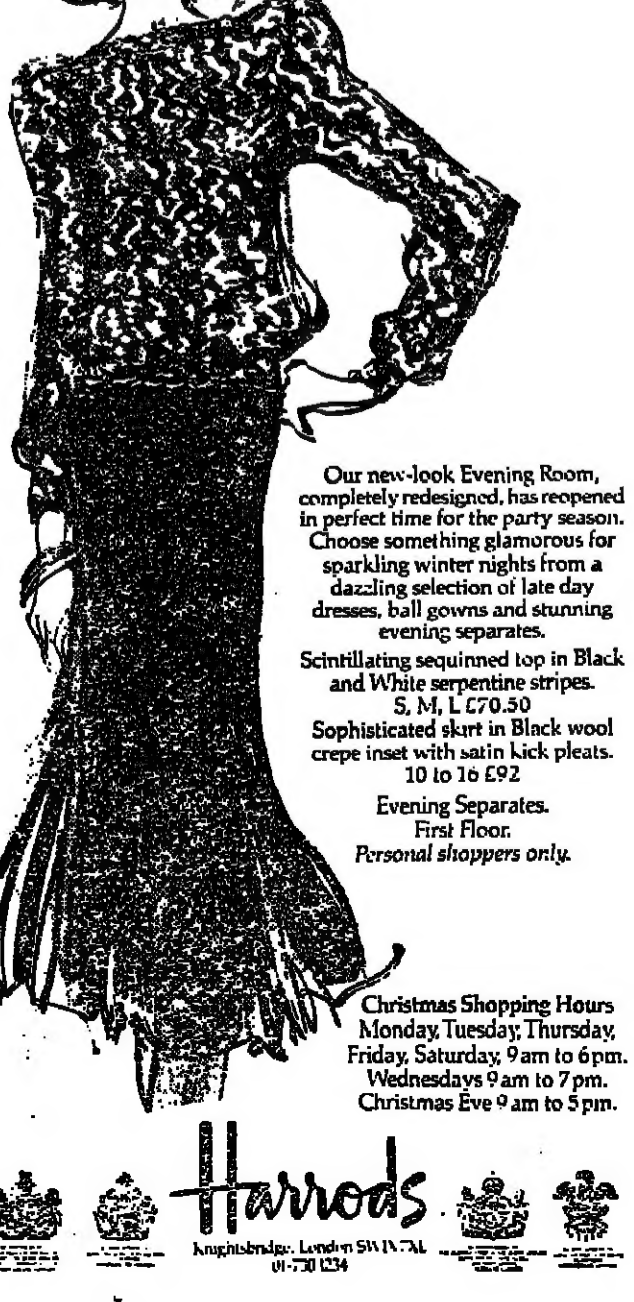
"The Government's unanimous desire is to safeguard the rights, even the present status, of the owners, provided our national security interests are adequately protected," he stated.

The Cabinet was stirred into action after a pledge given by Mr Papandreu in London last month to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who raised the problem of Corfu Britons.

The threat was posed by a Greek Supreme Court ruling in April, validating the sale of a 15-acre Corfu estate to a Briton on the ground that under the 1972 ban even Greek companies controlled by foreigners could not acquire land in frontier areas like Corfu.

The Government has already been given warning by the European Commission that this legislation is contrary to basic Community law. It is therefore considering the possibility of either limiting the ban to a narrow frontier zone, or imposing qualifications for foreign owners to satisfy sensitivities over national security.

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General Motors to build engine plant if Vauxhall maintains its recovery

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

General Motors will build its next new engine plant in Britain if its subsidiary, Vauxhall, continues its remarkable recovery.

It could mean several thousand new jobs within three years and a substantial reduction in the company's imports of completed cars and components.

All Vauxhall engines are imported from GM factories in West Germany and Australia at present.

Mr John Fleming, chairman and managing director of Vauxhall, said yesterday that as a more short-term move to increase British production the company's plant at Ellesmere Port, Cheshire would introduce a second shift in April, four months ahead of target. A second shift was introduced at Luton, Bedfordshire, in August.

Mr Fleming said that by the end of 1984 65 per cent of all Vauxhalls sold in Britain would be British built, compared with 50 per cent at present.

He admitted that the change in tactics since 1979, when Vauxhall made all the cars sold in Britain in this country, to one where it was a substantial net importer, had not helped the country's balance of payments.

But, he insisted, it had been necessary to keep Vauxhall in business and safeguard jobs.

Mr Fleming said that initially the second Ellesmere Port shift would be manned by workers moved from other jobs, but new workers would be recruited to add to the 750 already taken on at Luton when a new model was introduced at the northern plant.

The new car is believed to be a replacement for the successful Opel Kadett which is sold here as the Astra.

Vauxhall has had a record year. It will sell more than 261,000 cars, about 14 per cent more than in 1982.

December looks like being a record for the month, with nearly 10,500 registrations or more than 16 per cent of the market.

Mr Fleming said that Vauxhall had achieved monthly record volumes in 10 of the 12 months and a record market share in six of them. It had three models in the top 10 - Cavalier, Astra and Nova - and was planning to increase its dealer network from 660 to 730.

He predicted that next year would be even better, with sales of nearly 300,000 and a 16 per cent market share. That would be one year ahead of its original target of 16 per cent by the end of 1985.

Fuel consumption up

The average fuel consumption of new cars in Britain is 15 per cent better than in 1978, which means a 10,000-mile-a-year motorist is saving enough to pay his annual £25 road tax, according to latest figures (the Press Association reports).

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders has presented the details to the Government to show that car makers have exceeded their target of a 10 per cent fuel consumption saving two years ahead of time.

"The actual improvement could have been 17.5 per cent, but new EEC exhaust emission controls imposed in 1982 cost about 2.5 per cent in fuel consumption for all cars," Mr Sam Toy, chairman of the Society's energy committee and chairman and managing director of Ford of Britain, said.

A further strengthening of emission regulations planned for 1985 will cost up to another 2½ per cent in increased fuel consumption.



Tadworth staff to get £110,000 and jobs

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Nurses, cleaners and other staff at Tadworth Court Hospital for Sick Children in Surrey are to receive £110,000 in redundancy pay and 25 jobs.

The Department of Health, even though the trust which is to take over the hospital with the help of a DHSS grant is to reemploy all 129 of them immediately.

The decision to make the staff redundant, rather than to second them to the trust from the NHS, was confirmed yesterday by the department.

A spokesman for the department said yesterday that it did explore the possibility of seconding staff. "But neither the trust nor the board were prepared to accept secondment."

Great Ormond Street Hospital which now runs Tadworth, confirmed yesterday that it had not wanted to continue employing staff while seconding them to Tadworth. "We are not in the

Kinnock offer to Gerry Adams

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The Labour Party leader, Mr Neil Kinnock said yesterday that he would be prepared to meet Mr Gerry Adams, president of Provisional Sinn Féin, political wing of the Provisional IRA, but only if he was actively involved in the democratic process.

Mr Kinnock's readiness to meet Mr Adams, MP for West Belfast, and other leading members of Provisional Sinn Féin, was revealed during his first visit to Northern Ireland since he became party leader.

Although he paid a brief courtesy call on Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mr Kinnock did not meet leaders of any political parties during a brief visit in which he saw leading trade unionists, youth work-shops, and toured Shorts, the state-owned aircraft factory.

He is expected to meet political leaders on his next visit.

As Mr Kinnock arrived the upsurge in violence continued with the killing of two young men within minutes of each other in Belfast.

A new Anglo-Irish body with representatives from both parliaments should be set up as a step towards solving Northern Ireland's problems, according to Mr Niels Haagerup, a Danish Liberal European MP, who presented a special report last night to the European Parliament's political affairs committee (Ian Murray writes from Strasbourg).

Mr Haagerup emphasized that the views were his own. But he said that the reunification of Ireland was the correct solution and the desire of many people in Ireland and of a considerable number in the United Kingdom.

Mrs Thatcher opposed the report being drawn up.

The Warrington dispute

Regional papers will try to beat strike

By Kenneth Gosling

A number of individual newspapers and groups of weekly and daily publications said yesterday that they would try to beat the National Graphical Association's 24-hour strike. In the case of weekly newspapers this is likely to mean a delay in delivery of local editions to newsagents.

In Scotland, it was hoped that 120 regional and weekly newspapers would publish with the cooperation of members of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades, although later than usual.

But the situation was less certain so far as the Scottish Daily Newspaper Society, which represented 13 morning, evening and Sunday newspapers, was concerned.

It issued a statement deploring any interference with normal publication and, like its counterpart covering England, Wales and Northern Ireland, called on the TUC to ask the NGA to think again.

In England, an attempt will be made to publish the Wolverhampton Express and Star, the evening newspaper which was produced during the national dispute in April, 1980.

Mr Mark Kerven, its managing director, said: "We are obviously looking at whatever options are open to us. I am hopeful - there is no reason why we should not produce this time round."

Mr James Evans, joint deputy managing director of Thomson British Holdings parent company of Thomson Regional Newspapers, said: "If the strike goes ahead, as far as we are concerned we will pursue the NGA for damages that will be very substantial."

"We would not be able to bring out our morning papers like the Western Mail, Cardiff, or The Journal, Newcastle, or a number of evening papers around the country. So virtually all our papers will be affected."

Sir Richard Storey, chairman of Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers, which publishes 14 local newspapers, said the group hoped to keep production going. The papers have a combined circulation of 200,000 copies.

Mr Steve Oram, head of industrial relations at Westminster Press, which has many local weekly papers, said that the question of continuing publication this week would be given "full consideration", as would the question of claiming damages from the NGA.

involving members of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel in April, 1980.

Mr Eric Bowers, pressroom manager, Mr Anthony Dean, production manager, Mr Keith Fenwick, composing room manager and Mr Henry McGill, his assistant, all helped in the production of papers after the men were sent home together with NGA members.

Mr Keith said the expulsions were "contrary to the rules of industrial justice". The hearing, expected to last several days, continues.

Unions to fight Jenkin legal move

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

The Government yesterday told union leaders that it would seek powers next year to prevent their members from withholding information needed in the process of abolishing the Greater London Council and the metropolitan counties.

The prospect of a new legal struggle between the Government and unions arose at a meeting between Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, and members of the TUC's local government committee, who told him that they are opposed to him bringing in statutory machinery to oblige employees to disclose information.

The Transport and General Workers' Union, farmworkers' section, is to undertake a study of the herbicide 2,4,5-T and the possible risks it poses to people and animals.

The union has been campaigning for several years for a ban on 2,4,5-T. The weedkiller contains the highly toxic chemical dioxin.

Jets collide

An American pilot was missing last night after two A-10 "tankbuster" jets based at RAF Woodbridge, Suffolk, collided off the Norfolk coast yesterday on a training flight. The other pilot, Major Andrew Bush, aged 39, was rescued.

A map shows the collision site off the Norfolk coast, near Great Yarmouth. A scale bar indicates 25 miles.

Sale room

£44,000 painting from cellar

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Rooms Correspondent

A canvase that had been languishing in a coal cellar near Exeter sold at Phillips yesterday for £44,000.

The owners had believed it was a biblical picture because they thought they detected the Red Sea dividing but once it was cleaned off the picture was seen to depict blue mountains flanking a lake.

A Red Indian in the foreground gave Phillips, which had been consulted about the picture, the idea that it had a money-spinner on its hands. It began by attempting to identify the lake and eventually determined the picture to be "A Representation of the Encampment at Lake George" in North America under the command of Sir Jeffrey Amherst in the year 1759.

Phillips finally attributed the painting to Captain Thomas Davies, who had exhibited a picture with this title at the Royal Academy in 1774.

Phillips had applied to several North American museums for help in identifying the view but it was the Fort Ticonderoga Museum in New York State which provided the charts that clinched the matter and yesterday the museum bought the picture for its collection.

The Phillips sale of British pictures totalled £465,488 with 10 per cent unsold. Another curiosity of the sale was a group of hunting pictures by Thomas Butler who is recorded in the 1750s to have tried his hand at painting the intense demand for sporting pictures although he was by trade a bookseller and stationer in Pall Mall.

Pertridge Fine Art paid £36,300 (estimate £25,000 to £30,000) for "The Hunt" while Ackerman spent £35,200 (same estimate) on "The Hunt in Full Cry".

Christie's sale of silver and jewellery totalled £514,209 with 14 per cent unsold. Worsick paid the top price at £56,160 (estimate £20,000 to £40,000) for a James II circular mount with a 1687 and decorated with Chinoiserie engraving (35ozs).

Owen deal to retire dud envoys

By a Staff Reporter

Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, will disclose in a radio interview tonight that as Foreign Secretary he concluded a secret deal with the Foreign Office aimed at killing the controversial Think Tank report on the Diplomatic Service.

Speaking on the BBC Radio Three programme, *Routine Punctuated by Orgies*, a study of the Central Policy Review Staff (CPRS), the Cabinet's Think Tank which was closed by Mrs Margaret Thatcher last summer, Dr Owen says the CPRS's *Review of Overseas Representation*, published in 1977, was "hopeless".

It hindered the one reform on which he had set his heart: the "golden bowler" of dud ambassadors designed to ease them into early retirement and make way for gifted young men and women.

In the broadcast he describes his deal with the Foreign Office saying to its senior officials: "OK, I will ditch the report if you support me on this up-and-coming business."

Mr James Callaghan set up a secret Cabinet committee, of which Dr Owen was a member, to consider the CPRS's recommendations which included closing 20 diplomatic missions. Whitehall brief, page 20

Under-use may shut MSC centres

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The Manpower Services Commission will be forced to close many of its Skill Centres in areas of high unemployment next year because of government policy, the civil service union said yesterday.

According to commission figures, the centres, used mainly for adult training, will be operating at 19 per cent below capacity nationally with only 12,012 of the 14,801 available places filled.

But in the Midlands they will be 32 per cent underused and in northern England and Wales 25 per cent will be vacant. That will inevitably lead to closures, the union claims.

Predictions of low level use partly result from the Government's wanting training centres to be operated on commercial lines. "Only those courses providing skills in demand from local employers being continued."

A private planning document drawn up by the commission's training department for consideration by the MSC tomorrow, says: "The emphasis should be on meeting the needs of employers rather than the needs of individuals. Greater emphasis should be given to cutting back on occupational training where, playing results are poor."

The paper, putting forward plans for 1984-85, casts doubt on the viability of the present network of centres.

"The union, which published the document yesterday, says that many areas of high unemployment will be worst affected because of the low level of demand for skills."

The union which represents instructors at the skill centres, says that 344 such jobs are at risk. It says that most courses will be lost in mechanical engineering, automotive and construction skills.

The union says that in the present planning exercise, the balance has "swung wildly" towards industrial needs at the expense of individuals.

46 arrested in Polaris base protest

Forty-six peace protesters were arrested yesterday during a nuclear submarine base protest in Faslane in the Clyde.

About 60 protesters began an attempt to blockade the base yesterday morning. Eight people got into the base but they were immediately arrested.

A force of more than one hundred police officers kept the north entrance open.

Women peace protesters claimed last night that they were beaten with metal sticks by soldiers guarding the Greenham Common missile base in Berkshire during the big weekend demonstration.

Fifteen women out of the 25,000 demonstrators are said to have been injured. The police reported 29 officers hurt.

Mr Denis Healey, Labour's spokesman on foreign affairs, said on a party political broadcast last night that decisions about nuclear war would soon be handed over to computers and that cruise missiles had no military value because the bases at Greenham Common and Molesworth, Cambridgeshire, could be obliterated with just two missiles.

"Even if these cruise convoys were able to trundle away first to their firing sites," he added, "it would still take only 40 missiles to knock them out and the whole of southern England would be a radioactive desert."

The National Union of Students at its conference in Blackpool yesterday abandoned its established neutral policy on peace and disarmament by blaming Western leaders for deliberately increasing international tension and by voting for British withdrawal from Nato.

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Population trends: 2

Long haul to cut spending

Whatever the complexion of government, the 1990s would have been a decade of unemployment. In the second of our series on the demographic pressure on public spending, DAVID WALKER, Social Policy Correspondent, looks at population movements in the immediate future and how they will shape the Government's ambition to cut spending.

The present decade is a bleak stretch of years in which to reach a twenty-first birthday. Regardless of national economic policy, the 1980s would have been a time when all jobs were scarce compared with previous years; for those of school-leaving age and young adults, prospects are especially dim.

Next year, 1984, will see the number of those aged 21 reaching a peak. The last pinnacle for this age cohort was 1969 - glory years for youth when higher education was expanding, youth was fashionable and, Wilsonian stop-go notwithstanding, jobs were being created.

Now jobs are being lost at a period when the labour force is growing in numbers at a high rate, thanks mainly to the "baby boom" of the late 1950s to the mid-1960s. Additional school-leavers are now adding more than 130,000 extra to the labour force, and increased numbers of married women are pushing up the total.

Ministers may have thought about trying to encourage women to stay at home and so diminish the pressure for jobs, but demographic evidence shows no sign that women, on whom family spending power has come vitally to depend, will abandon the search for jobs and the money they bring home.

Only in the 1990s will the increase in the number of people of an age to work tail off, when the "baby bust" of the 1970s will shape population size. Meanwhile, unless an unprecedented number of new jobs are created, and quickly, today's high unemployment rates are likely to increase further.

Mrs Thatcher's favoured policy may also be knocked away by demographic pressure in the area of housing. The science of household formation is very imprecise; policy-makers simply do not know why people set up house on their own and so get into the market for houses and flats - or join the council waiting list. Simple changes in the age structure of the population give some clues, however, and they point to a sharp rise in household formation taking place now - with the possibility of a marked shortage of housing by the mid-1980s, if house-building does not boom.

Mr John Ermisch, in a newly published study for the Policy Studies Institute, *The Political Economy of Demographic Change*, estimates that about 78,000 extra households will have been created each year between 1981 and 1984; an extra 83,000 a year from 1984 to 87. Taken together with trends in divorce, in single parent-hood, in single person households, a shortage of fit dwellings could be apparent in the later 1980s.

The news is not all bad for Mrs Thatcher. In theory, large-scale savings should be made in education from the rapid fall in the secondary school population, which will be followed shortly by a drop in the number of 18-year-olds and so less demand for college and university places.

In health, too, the pressure of previous years is off. Demand will remain high and there will be pressures to spend, especially on the elderly, but growth - justified by population movements - should be less for the rest of the 1980s. Mr Ermisch predicts that during the 1990s demographic changes will allow a slight fall in the provision of in-patient hospital services even if standards are kept constant.

Tomorrow: Pensions time-bomb.

Smyslov draws steadily closer to victory

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

The ninth game between Vassily Smyslov and Zoltan Ribli in the Acorn Computers World Chess Championship semi-final in London ended in a draw on Sunday after 28 moves, making the score in the match Smyslov 5½, Ribli 3½.

Smyslov started quietly with a restrained type of Queen's Gambit and Ribli replied actively with the Tarrasch Defence.

With Smyslov playing carefully and correctly, Ribli could do little to disturb his opponent's unanimity. He brought about some difference in the nature of the position in that he castled Queenside, opposite sides to his opponent.

But Smyslov exchanged Queens on move 22, after which it was clear that a draw would soon be the outcome. It was Ribli who proposed the draw, after a further exchange, on move 28, and that was immediately accepted by Smyslov.

The former world champion needs one point to win the match, and, with three games to go, looks certain to achieve this, and thereby become the oldest player, at 62, to reach the finals.

Ninth game
White: Smyslov, Black: Ribli
QGD Tarrasch Defence

Computer export charge

The directors of Datalec Ltd, of Wimbourne, Dorset, were remanded on bail until January 24 by Poole magistrates yesterday on a charge arising from the seizure at Poole docks of computer equipment valued at £500,000, bound for Czechoslovakia.

Christopher Albert Carrington, aged 40 of St Mary's Close, Bournemouth, Hampshire, and Bryan Vernon Williamson, aged 51, of Chapel Rise, Avon Castle, Hampshire, a charge that on December 11, in relation to computers, computer spares and computer add-ons, they were knowingly concerned in the attempted evasion of the prohibition of exportation imposed by the Export of Goods Act, 1981.

They were bailed on sureties of £5,000 each and ordered to surrender their passports.

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Unearthed skull which led to confession was Roman, murder trial jury told

A man confessed to strangling his wife and cutting her up with an axe more than 20 years ago after the discovery of a human skull in May a jury was told yesterday. But the skull was later found to date from 410 AD.

Mr Martin Thomas, QC, for the prosecution, told Chester Crown Court that no trace had been found of Malika Maria De Fernandez, who disappeared on or about October 27, 1960.

Her husband, a former BOAC airline official, Peter Reyn-Bardt, aged 57, from Knightsbridge, west London, pleaded not guilty yesterday to murder between October 27, 1960, and June 30, 1961.

The skull's discovery in Wiltshire, near Stockport, led directly to the arrest and confession. Mr Thomas said. It was tested by the department of archaeology at Oxford University.

"The tests were not completed until October 12. But the conclusions were that the subject of the skull died in the year 410 AD, just before the Roman legions departed."

Mr Reyn-Bardt, a homosexual, had met his wife on March 25, 1959, while she was working as a waitress in the Zanzibar Coffee Bar in Manchester. Mr Thomas said.

She was slim, with long black hair worn in a Spanish style.

She looked Spanish, but spoke English without an accent. "Who precisely she was, her nationality, her background has never been properly established."

Mr Thomas said that within two hours they were engaged and married on March 28 "in a burst of publicity" in the press and on television. Her age was given as 32.

"He was in some trouble with his employers over over homosexuality and the marriage gave him respectability. She apparently loved to travel and could get free air travel through his position as station officer."

They moved into a house in Greater Manchester, but it was always a marriage of convenience, Mr Thomas said. However, Mr Reyn-Bardt's association with a young man, Philip Clark, caused friction.

It came to a head in November, when she moved out.

In January, 1983, Mr Reyn-Bardt was asked by two policemen whether he had killed his wife. Mr Thomas said. He replied: "Good gracious, no."

But, on May 13 an excavator driver found a human skull, thought to be that of a female aged between 30 and 50, about 300 yards from the cottage. Detectives arrested Mr Reyn-Bardt.

He is alleged to have said that he murdered her that day because she threatened to expose his homosexuality unless he paid her more money. The trial continues today.



Peter Reyn-Bardt and Malika on their wedding day.

Estate agents might take on conveyancing

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Estate agents are likely to provide competition for solicitors in conveyancing if Mr Austin Mitchell's House Buyers Bill becomes law, the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers said yesterday.

Commenting on the Bill, which has its second reading on Friday, the society says that it is unaware of any significant demand from house agents to undertake conveyancing, but "if the Bill is enacted, banks and building societies will be empowered to offer this service and in order to compete, many agents will feel compelled to follow suit."

Concerned about the risks involved for the house buyers if the solicitor's monopoly is ended, the society believes that in spite of safeguards built into the Bill, including limiting non-solicitors to do the conveyancing on property with registered title only, the risk of mistake is merely reduced, not eradicated.

"The society remain firmly of the opinion that not only should all conveyancers undergo a course of training, but they should also have a sound basic knowledge of property law."

Mr Brian Grainger, president of the society, said that it was constantly trying to find ways of reducing costs and speeding property transactions but "this must never be at the expense of professional competence."

A Conservative pressure group, the National Association of Conservative Graduates yesterday gave its support to Mr Mitchell's Bill.

"The Government's stance has been equivocal and unconvincing. If (which we very much doubt) the Law Society's arguments against this narrowing of their monopoly are right, then solicitors have nothing to fear because the competition will eventually wither away," the association said.

Arrested lawyer claims damages from the police

A solicitor was accused of theft, arrested in a busy court building and kept in a police cell, a jury at the High Court in Manchester was told yesterday.

But David Middleweek, aged 44, was never prosecuted. His counsel Mr John Huggill QC told the court that the conduct of the police had been "quite outrageous and without justification."

Mr Middleweek, a partner in a Manchester firm, was detained for more than two hours in Liverpool's main police station. Then, in the hearing of others he was told he was being bailed on suspicion of stealing a police document.

Mr Middleweek is claiming damages, alleging wrongful arrest, unlawful search, false imprisonment and defamation from the Chief Constable of Merseyside and Inspector William Coady.

The hearing continues today.

Complaint over 'Koo' Stark story upheld

The Press Council has upheld a complaint that *The Sun* invaded the Royal Family's privacy by publishing information about Prince Andrew and Miss Kathleen (Koo) Stark supplied by a former royal servant.

The material should not have been published, the council said, because it related to matters which were essentially private. Despite great interest in the Royal Family's activities there was an area of life and conduct which they and their guests could regard as private.

Only the first day's material in what was intended to be a series was published because *The Sun* became subject to legal proceedings brought on behalf of The Queen, and publication was halted. The action was settled within days, one of the terms being that no further articles would be published.

Antifreeze test failed by garages

By Robin Young

How can motorists be certain there is enough antifreeze in their cars to withstand winter's low temperatures? The answer, according to West Midlands County Council's consumer services department, is that they cannot, unless they drain the system and refill with the appropriate mixture.

The department fitted a test vehicle's cooling system with rather more antifreeze than the manufacturers recommended, then took it to 20 garages selected at random, asking them to check whether any antifreeze was needed. Only four garages agreed there was sufficient antifreeze in the car.

Five claimed there was no antifreeze in the system at all, and three of the garages which encouraged the researchers to spend money unnecessarily on buying antifreeze also charged 50p for carrying out the test.

The method of test varied. Most used some form of tester, but others did it by licking a finger dipped in the system and judging by taste. That method is not recommended for do-it-yourself tests as the methanol in some antifreezes can be poisonous.

Third firm cuts holiday prices

Britain's third largest holiday company, Horizon, yesterday joined its two main rivals by reprinting its 1984 summer brochure with an average of 10 per cent price cuts.

The latest move in the price war follows the market leader, Thomson Holidays, relaunching its brochure with 10 per cent cuts on average, and Intersun, the second largest company, reducing prices by an average of 9 per cent.

Body on shore

The body of Jason Collins, aged 12, of Wiltshire Road, Skelton, Cleveland, was found washed ashore yesterday at Saltburn-by-the-Sea, near where the fishing boat Venus had overturned the night before. He had gone fishing with his uncle and another man who both scrambled to safety.

Villa discovery

Archaeologists have discovered the remains of a Roman house, built about 300 AD, in Spring Hill, Lincoln. It had an ornate mosaic floor and a hypocaust. Flats are to be built on the site.

Lorry used to transfer hospital patient

From Our Correspondent Peterborough

The management of the Fitzwilliam private hospital which opened at Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, this year at a cost of £4m has admitted moving a badly injured patient in the back of a rented lorry.

The hospital's branch of the National Union of Public Employees published a photograph of the incident on the front page of its December newsletter yesterday with the headline: "Yes, for just £107 a day, you too could be carted about in the back of a lorry."

The patient was a man who had broken his pelvis and was in traction in a bed complete with frame.

Mr Mike Radford, union branch secretary, said: "The lorry was totally lacking in the basic requirements such as adequate interior lighting, heat-



Indian epic: Members of the Kala Kendra dance and drama company from Delhi at the Commonwealth Institute in London yesterday. The group, which is on a European tour, will give performances this week, including a presentation of *Ram Lila*, a famous Indian morality tale of gods, kings, princesses and undying love. (Photograph: John Voos).

Call to ban private shoplifting writs

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Leave to introduce a private members' Bill to ban private shoplifting prosecutions is being sought on January 16 by Mr Greville Janner QC, Labour MP for Leicester West.

The Bill would also require the police to follow the Essex force's system of cautions in appropriate cases, including those involving the elderly and infirm.

Mr Janner says in a letter to Mr David Mellor, Under Secretary at the Home Office, that Leicestershire Police have followed the example of Essex.

Leicestershire Police were the prosecuting authority in the case of Lady Barnett, of Cossington, Leicestershire, a friend of Mr Janner, who killed herself in 1980 four days after her conviction at Leicester Crown Court for stealing a carton of cream and a tin of tuna fish, valued at 75p, from a village store.

"The dock was no place for poor Lady-Isobel Barnett", Mr Janner said in a letter to *The Times* on December 2.

Mr Janner's move to introduce the Bill also follows the decision by F W Woolworth to

prosecute a widow aged 77, for shoplifting. Mr Recorder Goldstein described the action as "an affront to British justice."

After the judge's comments, Mr Richard Newcombe for Woolworth decided not to proceed with the case and a formal verdict of not guilty was recorded. Woolworth protested to the Lord Chancellor about the judge's comments.

But Mr Mellor has replied to Mr Janner that there can be no justification for restricting, in general, access to the courts by private prosecutors as proposed by the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure.

Referring to alternatives to prosecution, used by Essex Police, Mr Mellor says that a working group of chief constables and officials is aware of the forces practice and of cautioning schemes used elsewhere.

Show success

More than 68,430 people visited the Royal Smithfield Show at Earls Court, London, last week, 2,660 more than last year.

Film fans must pay more for 007

Cinema goers will have to pay extra to see two hit films this Christmas.

Prices are to be increased at one hundred ABC cinemas for the new James Bond film, *Never Say Never Again*, starring Sean Connery, and the thriller *Jaws 3D*. Adults will pay an extra 50p and children an extra 25p.

Thorn EMI, which owns the cinema chain, says that increasing prices for "blockbusters" is one way to bring more money into the troubled film industry.

Never Say Never Again has proved the most successful Bond film ever in the United States. The two new films together have grossed more than £100m already.

Thorn EMI's marketing director, Mr Philip Nugus, said: "Putting up prices for individual films is a gamble. But audience research has shown that many people are prepared to pay more for the big-budget, high quality film."

"That means we can spend more on publicity and so attract more money back into the industry to be used on improving cinema standards."

"We are experimenting with this system instead of putting up all seat prices in the new year."

"People who can afford to go to the cinema will do so anyway. For them 50p is not a great deal."

Pub video licence ruling

A ruling by councillors in Dudley, West Midlands, could lead to thousands of public houses all over the country having to be licensed as cinemas at a fee of more than £50.

The Dudley environmental health committee has decided that the Windmill in the village of Lye, which has one of the new video jukeboxes, must be

licensed under the Cinematograph (Amendments) Act, which came into force a year ago.

Other councils are believed to be facing similar decisions. If the ruling stands it could mean public houses and wine bars with video jukeboxes having to apply annually for cinema licences and submit to inspection by the fire brigade and environmental health officials.

South-east spends more for Christmas

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Shoppers in the South-east, particularly in London, are already promising the retail trade there a better Christmas than last year. But reports are bleaker from other regions.

Table wine sales, already on an upward trend as spirits and beer sales have decreased, have again increased and an annual record sale of wines, including ports and sherries, should reach about 750 million bottles by the end of the year, according to the Wine and Spirit Association.

Toy sales for the year are expected to be up by at least 6 per cent to more than £700m worth, according to the National Association of Toy Retailers. An early start to Christmas selling saw sales at Hamleys in Regent Street up by 36 per cent in the first half of November and sales are still running strongly.

But in Sheffield, Redgates, one of the biggest toy retailers in the North of England, has so far been only matching sales volumes of last year, which proved a relatively disappointing Christmas.

While Christmas shopping in the South of England started early there is a noticeable tendency to later shopping in the North.

Cole Brothers, a Sheffield department store which is part of the John Lewis Partnership, saw sales decline by 4.5 per cent in the week ended November 26, compared with the same week a year ago. But in the following week to December 3 sales were up by 4.5 per cent.

John Lewis, which has a score of department stores, has seen its best results in the first week of this month in the South-east. Overall sales in the week-ended December 3 were 11 per cent up, just short of the group's projected increase. Toy, radio and television sales were up by nearly 15 per cent.

November sales up

Spending in the shops gathered pace again in November after dipping slightly the previous month, according to provisional figures from the Department of Trade and Industry (Peter Wilson-Smith writes).

The retail sales index, which measures the seasonally adjusted volume of trade in the shops, rose by 1.1 per cent between October and November to a provisional 116.5. This was still below the record 117.3 in September.

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SCHINDLER



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The boutique is open from 9.30 to 6.00 Monday to Friday, late opening until 8.00 on Thursdays.



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1985 target date for sale of British Airways

PRIVATIZATION

British Airways is to be established as a public limited company next year and sold to the public as soon as possible, probably in early 1985, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, said in a Commons statement.

He had not yet reached a decision on whether a capital reconstruction of the airline would be necessary. Mr Ridley said: "The Government's intention of moving British Airways into the private sector was announced by the then Secretary of State for Transport in July 1979. Legislation to achieve this was passed in the Civil Aviation Act 1980.

Our original intention was to go ahead with a sale soon after the passing of the Act, but the decline in the airline's profits in 1979-80 and the large losses in the two subsequent years made that impracticable.

Over the last two years, however, decisiveness on the part of management and determined cooperation from the workforce have sharply improved British Airways' productivity, and the airline industry is now emerging from the world recession.

British Airways made a net profit of £77m in the financial year ended last March, and are set to make significantly higher profits this year. British Airways have also begun to restore their balance sheet. Since March they have repaid well over £100m of borrowings without any assistance from the Government. Their external finance limit fixed for 1984/85 means we expect British Airways to repay at least £160m of borrowings next year.

Following this transformation of British Airways, the prospects I have decided to aim for privatization as soon as possible, hopefully in early 1985. To this end I propose to establish British Airways as a public limited company under Government ownership in accordance with the 1980 Act.

I am accordingly arranging for the registration of public limited company under the name of British Airways Plc without at this stage giving it the right to trade, and I shall shortly make an order nominating it as the successor company to the British Airways Board under section 3(2) of the 1980 Act.

I also propose soon to make an order under section 10(1) of the 1980 Act appointing April 1, 1984 as the day on which the property, rights, liabilities and obligations of the British Airways Board in the UK are vested in British Airways Plc.

All this needs to be done well in advance of vesting to allow time for the necessary administrative steps, such as arranging the transfer of overseas property and rights from the British Airways Board to British Airways Plc.

Shortly before vesting British Airways Plc should be issued with a certificate to trade under section 4 of the Companies Act 1980, so that



Robinson: Minister being dishonest

it can take over the airline's business from April 1. At that stage I shall provide British Airways Plc with the statutory minimum of £50,000 share capital.

From April 1, 1984 onwards, therefore, British Airways will be trading as a Companies Act company wholly owned by the Government. During this period we shall exercise the degree of financial control appropriate to our role as sole shareholder.

I shall inform the House early next year of the regime that will govern relations between the Government and British Airways in the period between vesting and the offer for sale, but one element will be an assurance in similar terms to that given in 1980 to British Airways in similar circumstances, declaring that the Government continues to stand behind the airline and will not allow it to default on its debts.

This commitment will not of course extend to any debts falling due after the offer for sale. Final decisions on the timing of privatization will depend on the airline's financial performance in the meantime, on the state of the stock market and on the general performance of the airline industry. There has been considerable interest in the press lately, and in some parts of the airline industry, about whether a capital reconstruction of the airline would be necessary. I have reached no firm decision about this. It will depend in part on British Airways' financial performance over the coming year.

My aim is that as far as possible the necessary improvements to the airline's balance sheet should come through its own efforts.

British Airways has remained for too long preparing for take-off. It is a great tribute to Lord King, the British Airways Board and the entire staff of the airline that I can today position the airline on the runway for take-off into the private sector.

Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on transport, said his party would continue to oppose the privatization of British Airways as detrimental to the maintenance of a major public flag carrier on international routes.

We expect that if the Government want an early sale (he said) it will certainly have to do some form of capital debt reconstruction. Mr Ridley in his statement avoided that reality.

Did the Government intend to retain 49 per cent or 51 per cent of the shares in British Airways as the day on which the property, rights, liabilities and obligations of the British Airways Board in the UK are vested in British Airways Plc?

Mr Ridley: It is possible that capital reconstruction will not be necessary. I am not certain about that but a lot could be done by British Airways to get their own balance sheet in order in time.

It is not finally decided whether we will sell 100 per cent, but I think the probability is we will when the time comes to go to market.

I think the pension fund can be put into good shape before

All MPs urged to condemn strike by print workers

NGA DISPUTE

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, appealed to all MPs to join him in condemning the National Graphical Association's further recourse to indiscriminate and damaging industrial action in calling a one-day strike for Wednesday, but the Opposition did not respond. Nor did Mr King respond to the invitation by Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, that he should invite the parties to the dispute to meet at the Department of Employment.

Mr Smith said that the setting up of the Advisory and Conciliation Board had not removed from the Secretary of State for Employment the duty of resolving industrial disputes placed on him by Parliament. Mr King replied that he had not sought to dissociate the Government from that and had invited Mr Smith to join him in seeking to achieve a settlement within the law, but Mr Smith had signally failed to do so.

In a statement Mr King said: Further negotiations between the Stockport Messenger Group and the NGA took place throughout last week under ACAS chairmanship. These lengthy negotiations ended without agreement in the early hours of Friday morning. The board will review the value of their assets between the value of the assets they can certify that the assets are reasonably valued in the published balance sheets. They will consider if there are good grounds for revaluing particular assets.

However, the NGA refused to give up their demand for a closed shop at Bury and Warrington. On Friday morning the NGA continued to insist on its establishment, but Mr Smith was not prepared to accept this against the wishes of his employees, and it was on this issue of the closed shop that the negotiations broke down.

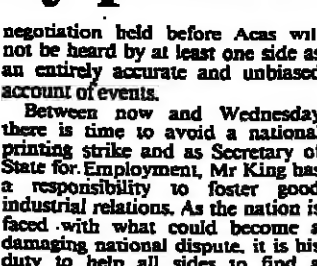
Later on Friday morning the contempt proceedings in the High Court in Manchester, which had been adjourned a week before at the request of both the Messenger Group and the NGA, were resumed. The NGA were fined a further £150,000 for the unlawful picketing which occurred between November 22 and 24 in their continued defiance of the orders of the court, and £375,000 for the unlawful picketing at Warrington between November 29 and December 1.

Mr King said: The closed shop of the NGA met on Saturday and decided to call a one-day strike of all their members on Wednesday December 14. I trust that all sides of the House will join me in condemning further recourse to the indiscriminate and damaging industrial action. It can do nothing to resolve the NGA's dispute with the Stockport Messenger Group.

All it will achieve is substantial damage to companies who have no connection with this dispute and which can only put at risk the jobs of many of their own members and other employees as well.

For all these reasons, and not least the likely to the serious consequences for the NGA itself, I hope that they will no longer seek to pursue this dispute in defiance of the law.

Mr Smith: His account of the



Mr. Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment

negotiation held before ACAS will not be by at least one side as an entirely accurate and unbiased account of events.

Between now and Wednesday there is time to avoid a national printing strike and as Secretary of State for Employment, Mr King has a responsibility to foster good industrial relations. As the nation is faced with what could become a damaging national dispute, it is his duty to help all sides to find a settlement.

He should invite the parties now meet today (Monday) or tomorrow at the Department of Employment to discuss ways of avoiding the conflict. If he does not do so, he is missing an opportunity of an intelligent initiative by the Board had not removed from the Secretary of State for Employment the duty of resolving industrial disputes placed on him by Parliament. Mr King replied that he had not sought to dissociate the Government from that and had invited Mr Smith to join him in seeking to achieve a settlement within the law, but Mr Smith had signally failed to do so.

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Mr Smith: His account of the

Diplomatic cars to get much less immunity

ROAD TRAFFIC

The Government is taking action to significantly reduce the number of diplomatic vehicles which are able to escape road penalties and wheel clamping through claiming diplomatic immunity, Lord Eton, Secretary of State, Home Office, told the House of Lords during question time.

In answer to a question by Lord Balfour of Incheury, (C) about the problem of the parking of diplomatic vehicles, Lord Eton said: We have completed a detailed review of the wheel clamping of diplomatic vehicles. This has confirmed that such clamping would be in breach of the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations and it is, therefore, not legally possible to apply wheel clamps to such vehicles.

Instead we propose to tackle the wider problem arising from the numbers of diplomatic vehicles in London. The Government is introducing new arrangements to reduce their numbers.

The first measure arises from the different types of diplomatic immunity. Representatives of certain international organizations, such as the UN, Nato and consular staff, are not entitled to full immunity but only to immunity in connection with the acts arising from their official duties.

Representatives are at present issued with category X registration plates which are also issued to certain staff entitled to full immunity. In future, X registered plates will be restricted to vehicles whose users are only entitled to immunity arising from their official acts.

As soon as the necessary replating has been completed, X registered vehicles, of which there are some 400, will be eligible for wheel clamping.

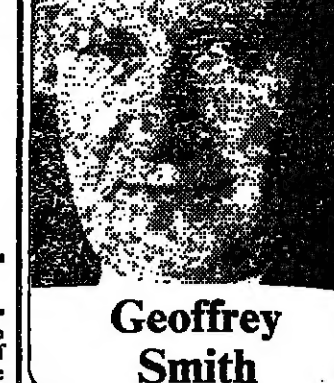
Secondly, there will be a firm limit on the number of vehicles for which D registration plates will be issued. These are issued to vehicles used by persons entitled to full diplomatic immunity. In future, the issue of D plates for official vehicles will be limited to a maximum of one set per notified diplomat per mission.

Thirdly, the issue of D plates for private vehicles will be limited to a maximum of two sets per diplomatic household.

These measures should result in a significant reduction in the number of vehicles exempt from wheel clamping.

There were 5,718 vehicles in London carrying diplomatic immunity and in the first nine months of this year 74,674 fixed notice penalties had been cancelled on the grounds of diplomatic immunity.

In only two instances had members of British missions abroad had their vehicles clamped. On each occasion the fine had been paid.



Geoffrey Smith

Mrs Thatcher's message to President Alfonsín of Argentina marks a new phase in the Falklands saga. It also indicates a significant development in her own premiership. It confirms that she is now prepared to be influenced by the advice of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

After the Argentine invasion of the Falklands, the Foreign Office was very much out of favour. Mrs Thatcher had never had much rapport with professional diplomats, and she came to the conclusion then that they had let her down.

By about the beginning of this year the Prime Minister's attitude had evidently mellowed. But the first notable indication that she had become receptive to Foreign Office advice came at the Conservative Party conference in October, when she spoke of the need for dialogue with the Soviet Union.

Virtues of active diplomacy

This did not exactly conflict with what she had said in Washington a fortnight before when receiving the Winston Churchill Foundation award. But the balance and tone of her Blackpool speech were very different and her Goldblatt speech a month ago, in which she announced her intention to visit Hanoi early next year, was in keeping with the new style.

It is an approach that accords precisely with Foreign Office thinking, with its belief in the value of keeping open the lines of communication with the East so as both to control the rise of international tension and to create the conditions in which a disarmament agreement might be negotiated.

One is tempted to suggest that Mrs Thatcher's response to the invasion of Grenada also bore the mark of Foreign Office influence. Certainly, it too was in line with the analyses of the FCO, which did not believe that the United States had sufficient justification for its action on the basis of the evidence then available either in London or in Washington - whatever may have been subsequently discovered about the Cuban army build-up on the island. But this seems to have been an instance where the Prime Minister and the Foreign Office came independently to the same conclusion.

The Argentine initiative, however, clearly bears the stamp of the FCO. It is not just that the Foreign Office has always believed in the need for a deal sometime with Argentina. Professional diplomats see the advantages of starting a process of discussion without specifying exactly where it should lead. But one would have thought that this kind of tentative, indirect, conciliatory approach was quite Mrs Thatcher's style.

It is all the more remarkable that she should become influenced by FCO thinking at a time when the Foreign Secretary himself is not particularly strong. Sir Geoffrey Howe has had an uncomfortable few months since his transfer from the Treasury. He is one of the most resilient of politicians, but his air of battered doggedness has enabled him neither to command the Commons nor to cut an imposing figure on the international stage.

The need for professionalism

No doubt he carries more weight with Mrs Thatcher than his immediate predecessor, Mr Francis Pym, who neither enjoyed a happy relationship with the Prime Minister nor seemed well placed in that post. But by far the strongest of Mrs Thatcher's Foreign Secretaries has been Lord Carrington. He could persuade her to change her mind, although usually after long and bruising argument. But that was essentially a personal influence rather than that of a department.

Perhaps that may be what we are seeing again. The softening of Mrs Thatcher's attitude towards the FCO became apparent shortly after Sir Anthony Parsons became her special adviser on foreign affairs a year ago. Her acceptance of the case for a dialogue with the East became evident shortly after Sir Anthony wrote her a paper on that theme a few months ago.

In his new job Sir Anthony has been a valuable link between the Prime Minister and his former colleagues in the FCO. But he finally retired at the end of last year. It will be a pity if the Foreign Office influence goes with him. The conduct of international affairs requires professionalism, provided it is recognized that professionalism is not enough.

One of Mrs Thatcher's greatest qualities, in foreign policy as in other fields, is a refusal to be deterred by odds that would daunt most reasonable, well-informed people.

BL heading for private sector

INDUSTRY

Elimination of the 10 per cent special car tax would be a first-rate bargain which would give returns to the Government, Mr Roger King (Birmingham, Northfield, C) said in the Commons in initiating a debate on the motor industry.

Moving a motion calling on the Government to give continued encouragement to the industry, he said that they should not fall into the trap of bribing Nissan to set up a plant in Britain with several hundred million pounds to provide no more than about 6,000 new jobs, only to find Nissan's market share in Britain was at the expense of BL, Ford and GM.

Mr George Park (Coventry North East, Lab) said any agreement with Nissan to produce in this country must contain a strict condition on high local content.

To talk about privatizing parts of

BL as individual parts of it moved into profit took no account of the cyclical nature of the sales of cars. BL to lose the possibility of the corporate strength holding the company together.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove, C) said on taxation that the Government did not distinguish between the company car as a tool as distinct from its being a perk.

Mr Alan Williams (Swansea West, Lab), for the Opposition, said they would welcome Nissan so long as it meant more jobs net in the car industry, would not be at the expense of existing firms and there would be maximum opportunities for British components.

Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Trade and Industry, said he was confident that the return would see the first steps in the rebranding of Nissan in the UK. That was the Government's priority for BL and it intended to see it through.

The company had reached a stage where it was realistic to start planning its return to private ownership. No one could expect this to happen overnight.

BL was well on course to break even at the trading level this year. The progress of Jaguar had been even more spectacular. It had been a remarkable achievement, given the car looked set to overtake Rover as the prime United Kingdom export to the United States.

A story in *The Guardian* about the possibility of Nissan purchasing Austin Rover was untrue.

Contrary to what had appeared in some newspapers, no decision had yet been made by Nissan. Nissan would be welcome in Britain provided that the project had a high level of local content. It would only welcome Nissan if it felt it was a project that in net terms would add to the UK both in terms of output and in terms of employment.

The motion was agreed to.

Pressure groups attacked for activities

HOUSE OF LORDS

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, attacked what he described as the cruelty of those who had deliberately unsettled and upset people who could not be expected to be adversely affected by the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill. This was being done, to some extent deliberately, by pressure groups.

He was answering Lady Lockwood (Lab) who moved an amendment to the section intended to reform the financial arrangements in the aftermath of divorce when the House of Lords resumed the committee stage of the Bill. She said her proposal split out more clearly what factors should be taken into account by the court in considering the financial consequences of divorce.

Under the amendment the court

would have regard to "the party's age, family commitments, training, continuity of work experience and the availability of employment opportunities".

Lady Lockwood said there was still widespread concern about this part of the Bill and many organizations, including the National Council of Women, had approached her about it. She had received a sad letter from a 64-year-old woman who had been divorced, asking if her monthly allowance would be stopped. She had reassured her about this.

The Bill's effect could be to cause women to be continually looking over their shoulder for future consequences. A whole range of family consequences needed to be taken into account. The amendment gave guidance on the kind of factors the court should consider. It had an eye-balance approach to both parties to a divorce.

Lord Rawlinson of Ewell (C) said that an extraordinary amount of distortion had occurred before the terms of the Bill were properly examined. The words which the amendment would insert were unnecessary, he said. The Bill already said everything that a court needed to take into account to do fairness to both parties.

Lord Hailsham said that they could not draft an Act simply to satisfy public opinion. The Bill, in its present form, was a good example of the instruction to the courts to do something in a particular way.

He hoped they would be able to bring to those who were potentially affected by the Bill exactly what the Government had in mind.

The draftsman would like to have another look at the section to see if the criteria as set out was the right criteria. The amendment would be considered.

Lord Malsbrough, for the Opposition, said the media had put the Bill

about as if it would enable a husband to persuade a court that the wife ought to be independent, regardless of age, and on the basis that the court was now to say that it was a good idea to render a husband, for a certain period of time, but not making it a continuing obligation throughout his life.

In the profession it was known that there were registrars who were "wives' registrars" and others who were "husbands' registrars".

Courts, practitioners, the public and the media needed guidance when alterations of this kind were being brought forward.

Lord Hailsham commented: Of course the media are always with us, like the poor, and they have distorted this Bill.

The amendment was rejected by 99 votes to 84 - Government majority, 15.

Participation in waterways business

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for the Environment, said in a Commons written reply on privatization:

The British Waterways Board is financed at 85 per cent of its total income by annual grants from the Exchequer. An objective currently under discussion with the board is that it should increase opportunities for private sector participation in its business, for example by direct investment, contracting out, joint ventures and hiring off.

Severn decisions early in the new year

TRANSPORT

Mr Nicholas Edwards, the Secretary of State for Wales, said during questions in the Commons that he was determined to maintain the Severn Bridge, a vital entry into Wales and of fundamental importance to the economy of South Wales.

The Government was making an assessment about the strengthening required on the existing bridge and alongside that, concerning the question of a second crossing. The Secretary of State for Transport (Mr Nicholas Ridley) hoped to make an

early statement to the House on both of these matters. This was more likely to be in the new year than before Christmas.

Asked by Mr Roy Hughes (Newport East, Lab) what steps he was taking to improve the motorway access into Wales, Mr Edwards said he worked in close cooperation with the Secretary of State for Transport to ensure the best possible motorway access into Wales.

Mr Hughes will be confirmed that the Severn Bridge on the M4 is the only stretch of motorway in the whole of the United Kingdom on which tolls are collected?

Mr Edwards: The important matter

of the moment is not the question of tolls, which have been operated under successive Governments but to ensure the security of this vital transport link to Wales.

Sir Raymond Gower (Vale of Glamorgan, C): Nevertheless, would it not make some improvement to the flow of traffic if the tolls for those entering Wales were collected on the Welsh side and tolls for traffic entering Wales on the other side?

Mr Edwards: Mr Ridley is taking a close look at all the measures which would be required to see if he can eliminate any unnecessary delay. This is certainly one of the things that is being looked at.

Welsh improvement grants backlog will be honoured - Minister

HOUSING

A total of 90,000 home improvement grant applications are outstanding in the UK, and the Secretary of State for Wales, Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarfon, Pl C), said this represented a saga of monumental blunders by the Welsh Office. It is unrealistic to end the grant backlog by the end of the year, he said, but he was sure that the money that is available. The Government knows applicants have the right for up to 12 months to take up the grant so that all that has to happen by March 31 is that the application has got to be made. It does not necessarily have to be processed or approved or paid for.

We have had enormous success with this policy in the enormous number of applications coming forward. It is as successful as our council house sales policy.

Mr Peter Hubbard-Atiles (Bridgend, C): In November 1982 one of the largest housing authorities in Wales was urged by certain of its members to redeploy existing staff or take on additional staff in order to take maximum advantage of the special short-term improvement scheme. If that advice had been accepted, many of its 1,000 current applications would have been completed by the end of the year.

Mr Roberts: He is right. We have made special arrangements to meet the financial costs this year and of course the sky was the limit last year. This year, £20m has been made available to local authorities.

Mr Geraint Howells (Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, Lib): Will he give an assurance that the Government has no plans to abandon the home improvement scheme in 1984-85?

Mr Roberts: We have always made clear that the 90 per cent rate of grant was for a limited period. Although the period for applying for the grant comes to an end on March 31, there will continue to be improvement grants available at the 75 per cent rate. I cannot stress enough that anyone who has applied by March 31 for the higher rate of grant will get it.

Mr Barry Jones, chief Opposition spokesman on Wales (Alyn and Deeside, Lab): The Minister claims success but why are the local authorities angry and bitter? Is it not the case that the poorer occupiers in elderly homes will suffer most and that their houses will be progressing towards massive dilapidation?

Mr Roberts: These grants are at the higher rate in order to help the poorer house owners and they are clearly taking advantage of it. Local authorities have no cause to be angry with anyone except themselves, because they have failed to take advantage of the opportunities given them by the Government.

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Mr Roberts: He is mistaken. We have made special arrangements for this year and local authorities in that any spending on renovation grants above 50 per cent of the allocation given to them will be met by the Government.

Sir Raymond Gower (Vale of Glamorgan, C): Will he bear in mind that Wales has a significantly higher proportion of owner-occupiers than the UK in general and many are of small or limited means? The housing stock is older than the average for the UK, and therefore this need for repair and renovation is greater.

Mr Roberts: Because of the conditions revealed by the House Conditions Survey and for certain other reasons, the Chancellor saw fit to introduce the 90 per cent rate of grant which will remain available in hardship cases after March 31, 1984. We welcome this enormous

number of applications and it will be clear that the 90 per cent rate of grant was for a limited period. Although the period for applying for the grant comes to an end on March 31, there will continue to be improvement grants available at the 75 per cent rate. I cannot stress enough that anyone who has applied by March 31 for the higher rate of grant will get it.

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Four projects to create 300 jobs

Wales' new inward investment organisation, WINvest, was today announcing four new projects for Cardiff and Tredegar, which promised 300 new jobs, Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, stated during Commons questions. He said he had discussed several of these projects during his recent tour of the United States.

During the first 8 months of its operations, WINvest had handled 161 company visits to Wales. He said later that allocations to Welsh Development Agency factories this year were well up on last year's all-time record figure.



مكتبة من الأصل

France's extreme right delighted by surge in Brittany by-election

From Diana Goldes, Paris

The extreme right-wing National Front marked up the most striking result in the 15 national and local government by-elections on Sunday, obtaining 13 per cent of the vote in the parliamentary by-election in the second constituency of the Morbihan in Brittany.

Otherwise, the by-elections showed overall a continuation of the shift away from the left to the right, but with nevertheless some success for the left, with the Communists increasing their share of the vote in three cantonal by-elections and the Socialists increasing theirs in one.

The National Front's high score in the Morbihan, obtained by its own president, M Jean-Marie Le Pen, was unexpected, particularly in a predominantly country area where there are virtually no immigrants. It was the National Front's best result since the 17 per cent it won in the Dreux municipal by-election last September.

A delighted M Le Pen, who

was born in the Morbihan, claimed afterwards that the National Front should now be considered the second most important opposition party after the Gaullist RPR.

M Georges Sarre, national secretary of the Socialist Party, said the result obtained by M Le Pen was worrying.

The Morbihan by-election was held after the election to the senate of the previous incumbent, M Christian Bonnet, UDF *deputé* for the constituency for the past 26 years. Three of the seven people contesting the seat on Sunday were rival UDF candidates.

Between them they obtained 66 per cent of the vote, however, while the Socialist candidate obtained only 15 per cent, markedly down from the 30 per cent the Socialists obtained in the national elections at the peak of the party's popularity two years ago. There will be a run-off between two UDF candidates next Sunday.

The only other parliamentary

by-election on Sunday was in the first constituency of the Lot in the Midi-Pyrénées, where M Maurice Faure, a member of the centre-left Mouvement des Radicaux de Gauche (MRG), had held the seat for 32 years until his election to the Senate.

Although the single opposition candidate gained the highest score in the Lot with 43 per cent of the vote, the left is well placed to win the run-off next Sunday. The three Socialist, Communist and MRG candidates obtained between them over 51 per cent.

The young MRG candidate, M Bernard Charles, who was endorsed by M Faure, did surprisingly well, obtaining 23 per cent of the vote, compared with only 16 per cent for the official Socialist Party candidate. The MRG is one of the components of the present Government, but is so tiny, usually getting no more than 2-3 per cent of the national vote, that it is rarely mentioned.



African quartet: President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya (left) celebrating yesterday his country's 20 years of independence with some of the invited heads of state - King Moshoeshoe of Lesotho, President Kannda of Zambia and President Said Barre of Somalia. The occasion was marked by the pardoning of 7,000 petty criminals and assurances to Uganda and Tanzania that Kenya would never tolerate dissident groups from those nations on its soil.

Angola 'to step up use of Cubans'

By Richard Dowden

Cuban and Soviet involvement in southern Africa may soon be stepped up and Cuban troops used in direct combat against the Unita guerrillas and the South Africans supporting them, according to an Angolan official.

Mr Arsan Humbaraci, an Angolan Government adviser, told a press conference in London yesterday that the Angolans would soon ask for more Cuban troops and that, in the wake of the US invasion of Grenada, Cuba would be willing to supply them.

Until now, the Cuban forces in his country, estimated by US sources to number 20,000, have been held back from direct front-line combat.

It is understood the Russians have supplied new MiGs, Sam missiles and armour to Angola, and that France has sold Angola Gazelle helicopter gunships. The Soviet Union, Mr Humbaraci hinted, would be delighted with an Angolan decision to raise the stakes for the Americans in Southern Africa.

"Because of South African involvement in this zone, the war may take on new dimensions and the battle here will involve Cuban and perhaps Soviet troops. Cuban troops will be directly involved in the fighting."

American prisons in crisis

A short fuse and a history of rioting

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

America's prisons are in crisis. The tougher sentencing of recent years - a response to public demand for sterner treatment of criminals - has filled many jails to overflowing.

Prison governors are concerned that overcrowding is stoking up tensions which could erupt into rioting. One talks of his prison as a time bomb. Attica in New York state, for example, has 2,100 men in its cells - 300 more than the limit set after the 1971 riots in which 43 prisoners and guards died.

The American prison population has doubled in 10 years to 432,000. In some jails, the overcrowded cells can take no more and men are living in tents, basements, gymnasiums and corridors.

In New York city, several hundred prisoners have been released on a judge's orders to relieve pressure on jails. Mr Edward Koch, the outgoing mayor, then accused judges of not working hard enough.

The judges replied that Mr Koch should not push his responsibilities on to the judiciary, and his administration should build more cells. About 12 serious offenders, including five accused of murder and two of rape, somehow got on to the release list in New York. Officials

noticed in time - but one man was arrested and charged with rape two days after he was freed.

The bursting jails are a reflection of the stronger law-and-order mood in America, with tougher and more mandatory sentencing. But although jail space is at a premium, the public is reluctant to pay taxes to finance prison construction and building has been cut back.

Americans are angry about the high rate of crime. Although it fell by about 4 per cent last year, a new report shows that people here have a greater chance of being victims of a violent crime than of being hurt in a traffic accident.



Mayor Koch: Judges not working hard enough

Somalia to resettle refugees

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Somalia, with the world's highest proportion of refugees to its population, plans to move some of them from overcrowded camps to more permanent settlements where they can become self-supporting.

The problem began in 1978, when hundreds of thousands of ethnic Somalis fled from the semi-desert Ogaden region of Ethiopia after an invasion by Somali troops had been repelled.

The number of refugees was put at well over a million - against a normal population for the country of about four million. Now UN officials estimate that there are about 700,000 refugees in 35 camps in different parts of Somalia.

The Deputy UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr Richard Smyser, recently toured many of the camps.

A UN spokesman said there had been a marked improvement. Most camps have adequate water supplies, health and nutrition standards were better and morale among the refugees had improved.

However, the enmity between Somalia and Ethiopia, which reached a peak in 1978, makes it virtually impossible for the countries to devise any plan for the refugees to return to the Ogaden.

Pilots 'too emotional' after air crashes

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain's airline pilots were yesterday accused by the Government of reacting emotionally to the two recent air disasters.

Señor Enrique Barón, the Transport and Tourism Minister, made the accusation when defending safety equipment at Spanish airports.

Speaking at a specially summoned press conference at which senior tourism officials were also present, the minister emphasized the need for strict observance of travel safety regulations to avoid increasing Spain's accident toll.

Linking the pilots with train drivers and motorists, Señor Barón said: "It is true in Spain we can improve respect for systems of safety."

The one-year-old Socialist Government, which has appointed new directors at half the country's airports, was, Señor Barón said, making a great effort to improve supervision of all transport.

Señor Barón virtually rejected all the criticism voiced by Spanish pilots after the head-on collision last week between two Spanish jets in dense fog at Madrid which killed 93 people. Only 10 days before that disaster, a South American jumbo crashed coming in to land at Madrid, with the loss of 181 lives.

The Minister said it was at the discretion of the airlines whether planes should fly in near minimal weather conditions.

The director-general of tourism said at the meeting that no reroutings of tourist groups had occurred after the recent disasters, but there had been individual cancellations.

No adverse comments on Madrid's Barajas airport had come from British pilots, the Transport Minister said. Gatwick was using the same systems, he said.

Answering the pilots' charge that if Barajas had ground radar, the head-on collision could have been avoided, Señor Barón said a similar accident had occurred in Chicago two years ago where the airport had such a system.

With only a few days of fog a year at Madrid, the problem was really how best to select safety priorities. Señor Pedro Tena, the director-general of civil aviation, emphasized. He suggested that doubling existing radar flight control equipment might be preferable.

Bush tells El Salvador to stop death squads

From Alan Tomlinson, Tegucigalpa

Vice-President George Bush has informed the Government of El Salvador that aid to the country may not continue unless there is an end to killings by right-wing death squads.

US officials in San Salvador said the purpose of Mr Bush's visit was to impress upon President Avaro Magana and his Defence Minister, General Carlos Vides Casanova, the genuine concern of the Reagan Administration about human rights violations in the country.

Mr Bush pressed the point at a dinner in his honour and reiterated it at a press conference given prior to his departure.

He described the killings as the "murderous violence of reactionary minorities" and said El Salvador would find it difficult to get the aid it deserved unless the death squads were stopped.

An independent human rights organization in the country estimates that up to 40,000 civilians have been killed by the security forces and the death squads in the past four years.

The State Department denied an entry visa to Señor Roberto D'Aubuisson, the head of the right-wing Arena Party, which has been linked with the death squads.

3 accused of island plot

Perth (AFP) - A court here was told yesterday of an alleged plan for a commando-style raid to overthrow the Government of the Comoro Islands, off the East African coast.

Three men - Walter John Pilgrim, aged 54, Edward Arthur Greengrove, aged 42, and Frederick John Patrick, aged 46 - appeared at a

preliminary hearing in the Perth magistrates' court, charged under sections of the Crimes Act.

The court heard that a former ruler of the Comoro Islands was seeking to be reinstated and the scheme was for Mr Pilgrim to recruit men to overthrow the Government.



Power change in Venezuela

Dr Jaime Lusinchi, aged 59, who was formally proclaimed President-elect of Venezuela yesterday after the Supreme Electoral Council confirmed Democratic Action's landslide victory over the ruling Christian Democrats in elections on December 4.

He will take office in early February. (Colin Harding writes). His party will have an absolute majority in both houses of Congress, with its 118 seats in the lower house more than double those of the Christian Democrats.



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Portugal offers to act as go-between in Falklands negotiations

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

Portugal has offered to transmit Argentina's views on the Falkland Islands dispute to the British Government, Senhor Mario Soares, the Prime Minister, revealed in Buenos Aires. It was the second West European nation to offer to intercede with Britain in search for a negotiated solution to the Falklands problem. France made a similar proposal on Sunday. Senhor Bettino Craxi, the Italian Prime Minister, who carried Mrs Thatcher's Note congratulating the new Argentine Government, has also offered to carry any return messages.

Senhor Soares made his offer during a private meeting with President Raúl Alfonsín two days after the new Argentine leader took office and put an end to the military Government responsible for last year's war in the South Atlantic.

"We are in a position to transmit Argentina's opinions to the British Government and to point out the importance of this change to democracy," Senhor Soares told reporters after meeting Señor Alfonsín.

The Prime Minister added that the inauguration of President Alfonsín was "well viewed" in West Europe and would "facilitate a dialogue within the framework of the United Nations about the problem of the Malvinas (Falklands) Islands."

The French Prime Minister, M Pierre Mauroy, hinted on Sunday that Paris might be ready to shift its position on the Falklands as part of its support for Argentina's new democratic Government.

M Mauroy told a press conference: "France never voted against Argentina in the United Nations, it only abstained, and Alfonsín was not President when that occurred."

He also promised that France would open a dialogue with the British to bring about negotiations soon with Argentina in the Falklands.

President Alfonsín's Government was expected to begin announcing its first measures after being inaugurated formally on Saturday. Officials at the Economics Ministry said they would impose indirect price

controls on Argentine businesses to halt the soaring inflation rate.

A thorough reform of the armed forces, promised by Señor Alfonsín during his campaign, is also expected to be among the first measures taken.

Newspapers on Sunday reported that the Government had chosen General Mario Fernandez Torres as head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a move which would drive many high-ranking generals into retirement.

Government officials have not confirmed these reports and said the names of military appointees would be released this week.

The Government's purge is expected to be particularly severe in the Army because it has not weeded out officers responsible for Argentina's defeat in the Falklands war. President Alfonsín has also blamed senior military officers for human rights abuses and the disappearance of up to 30,000 people in a period of repression which began as a fight against left-wing guerrillas.

Tensions in Israel, Jordan and Lebanon



Face from the past: Mr Menachem Begin, the former Israeli Prime Minister, arriving at his new flat in the Beit Hakarem quarter of Jerusalem. He has disappeared into voluntary seclusion as a result of deep depression on September 6.

Bethlehem security fears grow Britons held at gunpoint in Beirut

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

From Robert Fisk Beirut

Fears are mounting about security during Christmas Eve celebration in the Israeli-occupied town of Bethlehem after a new campaign of violence against Arab and Christian targets.

The televised celebrations in Bethlehem's Manger Square have long been regarded as a prestige target for both Palestinian and Jewish terrorist groups. Strict security precautions are already in force.

The latest attacks took place yesterday in the Palestinian village of Hussan, only two miles from Bethlehem, where three Israeli Army issue grenades - each professionally booby-trapped with a hair trigger mechanism - were placed by Arab targets.

One exploded when a woman opened the front door of her

house while the other two were defused by the security forces.

The grenades were similar to four planted last Friday at Christian institutions close to Jerusalem's Mount Zion and a fifth at a mosque at Beit Safa, another village close to Bethlehem. All were booby-trapped.

Another army issue grenade exploded on Friday night in the main shopping street in the annexed Arab sector of Jerusalem and six Arab-owned cars were vandalized in the village of Abu Tor on Jerusalem's outskirts.

Israeli security forces believe that a right-wing Jewish terrorist group is responsible for the attacks, which appear to be part of a campaign begun two weeks ago.

The campaign had become noticeably more violent in the

wake of last week's Jerusalem bus bomb attack in which five Jews were killed, including three schoolgirls.

One police officer said that the professionalism of the grenade attacks indicated the possibility that the perpetrators had had army training.

Extra security measures have been instituted to try to prevent more attacks at a time of high tension between Jews and Arabs in the Holy City.

TEL AVIV: Israeli authorities have demolished the homes of three alleged guerrillas accused of killing a Jewish seminary student in the West Bank town of Hebron (Reuters reports).

The authorities also sealed off four other homes of alleged terrorists in Hebron and Ramallah, military officials said.

Three British soldiers attached to the multinational force in Lebanon were stopped and detained for an hour by gunmen from the Amal Shia Muslim militia yesterday after they had accidentally driven their Land Rover into the Bourj al-Barajneh suburb not far from the British base in southern Beirut.

The Amal militiamen, who originally thought the troops were Americans - despite the Union flag attached to their vehicle - later released the Britons unharmed.

A spokesman for the 97-strong British contingent, who failed to explain how the soldiers could have taken a wrong turning so near to their headquarters, said that the men "negotiated their own release" and that their weapons had not been taken from them.

● Arafat appeal: The Lebanese Army accused Druze militia of breaking the civil war ceasefire yesterday as official efforts again failed to reactivate a security committee charged with stabilizing the truce. Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, asked for protection against an Israeli air attack on his loyalist guerrillas as they assembled at Tripoli's harbour to board Greek ships that will evacuate them.

The military command here said army positions had come under Druze artillery and rocket fire.

We are at the edge, says Husain

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

King Husain of Jordan in an American television interview described conditions in the Middle East area as very dangerous.

"We are all at the edge of a precipice and the (Middle East) area is threatened," he said in a satellite interview from Jordan on Sunday.

Asked to what extent the Soviet presence in Syria posed a threat to Jordan and Middle East peace, the king replied: "The danger in the area is of polarization."

He reiterated that certain conditions would have to be

met and he would have to have Palestinian participation and support before he could enter into any negotiations with Israel on a Middle East settlement.

King Husain said that Israel's illegal settlement activities on the occupied West Bank were continuing to create obstacles.

Questioned about the fighting with the Palestine Liberation Organization the King said: "We will continue to do business with a PLO which represents the people of Palestine and their hopes and aspirations." He added that any PLO organization that was

subservient to the will or policies of any Arab state or any force in the world "is certainly one that we would not recognize."

King Husain said that the United States has a contribution to make to the establishment of a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

It certainly could do that as a superpower interested in peace in the area. "But it cannot do it if it has embarked upon a course that would make it an ally of Israel - in other words, an ally of a belligerent in the tragedy in which we all live."

New EEC spirit on budget

From Ian Murray Strasbourg

The European Parliament was last night moving towards acceptance of the Community's 1984 budget, despite the failure of the Athens summit last week. But a question mark still hangs over the future of the agreed British rebate of £457m, which the Government wants paid by the end of March.

At the previous reading of the budget in the Parliament in October, members of most parties threatened to block it unless there was real progress in Athens. They also blocked all the money for Britain in the budget and tried to put a freeze on one per cent of all agricultural spending.

But from the opening speeches in last night's debate, it was clear that a new spirit of compromise is sweeping through the Parliament. The threat of Community bankruptcy appeared to have united the strong farming lobbies.

Mme Chastiane Scrivener, the French liberal MEP, who is rapporteur for the budget, told the Assembly last night that the Athens failure required members to show they could override national selfishness and find constructive solutions. The important thing, she said, was for Parliament to behave responsibly to help the Community out of its present crisis. As far as the British and West German rebates are concerned, she was less obviously seeking conciliation.

Base blockade broken

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

Riot police used water cannon against anti-nuclear demonstrators who blockaded an military depot in Frankfurt yesterday.

About 150 demonstrators tried to prevent a West German Army lorry from entering the depot, in the Hausen district, which the peace movement claims is used to assemble parts for Pershing 2 missiles.

Up to 40 people were detained, 30 of them for allegedly insulting the police by swearing and spitting at them.

In Mühlanger, near Stuttgart, where West Germany's first Pershing 2 missiles are believed to be deployed, 100 demonstrators tried to blockade a US Army base. However, police carried them off the road, detaining 15 of them.

Riot police on stand-by in Gdansk and Warsaw

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Poland's leaders have been visiting some of the country's main industrial troublespots on the Baltic coast in an effort to dissuade workers from following the siren call of the Solidarity underground for demonstrations and protest marches this week.

In case gentle persuasion fails columns of motorized Riot Police (Zomo) have been moving into place in both Gdansk and Warsaw.

There are two possible booby traps the Government may have to cope with this week. The first comes today, the second anniversary of the declaration of martial law by General Jaruzelski.

Although Solidarity has not called for unrest today, the anniversary is sure to bring some trouble. A number of factory cells have been discussing the possibility of small-scale wreath-laying ceremonies and chanting.

But Friday, the thirteenth anniversary of the shooting of

workers during the food riot on the Baltic coast, is seen as the most volatile date. In Gdansk, Mr Lech Walesa will attempt to make a public speech announcing new plans for the banned Solidarity trade union, while opposition groups in Nowa Huta, Warsaw and Wrocław have been organizing protest marches.

● Mrs Walesa home: Mrs Danuta Walesa, the wife of the Nobel Peace Prize laureate, yesterday returned from the awards ceremony in Oslo to Warsaw airport which police sealed off to prevent any show of popular support for her husband (Reuters reports).

Mrs Walesa, accompanied by her eldest son, Bogdan, was welcomed by her husband and the family's close friend and adviser, Father Henryk Janowski of Gdansk.

Motorists who could not produce airline tickets or were not accredited journalists were turned back by police.



Traffic offence: A runaway hippopotamus from a West German circus attacks a police car before being hustled into a horse van at Kassel.

Parents of crippled baby win appeal

The United States Supreme Court refused yesterday to order surgeons to operate on Baby Jane Doe, the non-week-old infant with multiple birth defects whose case has roused a nationwide controversy (Trevor Fishlock writes).

Baby Jane, whose real name is a secret, was born with an abnormally small head and brain, water on the brain and spinal bifida, an exposed spine. Her parents were told that without surgery she would be unlikely to live beyond two. Surgery would give her a chance of living to 20, but she would be in pain, retarded, paralyzed and epileptic.

The decision against surgery, but a right-to-life group persuaded a court to order surgery and appoint a lawyer as the baby's guardian. This order was subsequently overturned in an appeal court and yesterday the Supreme Court in Washington supported the appeal court's action.

Lisbon's new army chief

Lisbon-Portugal's Cabinet has chosen General Jorge da Costa Salazar Braga to succeed General Garcia dos Santos as Army Chief of Staff (Martha de la Cal writes).

General Salazar Braga, aged 58, served in Angola and Guinea Bissau and has also been a professor in the Institute for Advanced Military Studies. He has no known political affiliations.

Peru guerrillas 'aid drug trade'

Lima (AP) - The Peru Government says it has proof that international cocaine traffickers and Maoist guerrillas are working together in Peru's insurgency zone.

An extraordinary session of the senate was held in a special report that the guerrillas provide protection to illegal cocaine traffickers in return for money, arms and clothes.

Scalp reform

Peking (Reuters) - Chinese Buddhist monks and nuns are being urged to scrap a 1,000-year-old initiation rite of burning bare patches on the scalp because it is bad for their health. The Buddhist association's national council, meeting in Peking, will abolish the custom if provincial Buddhist associations agree.

Barents talks

Moscow (Reuters)-Norway and the Soviet Union opened talks intended to break a 12-year deadlock on rights to the Barents Sea. At stake are the rights to 60,000 square miles of Arctic continental shelf seabed believed to hold extensive oil deposits.

Buried protest

Brisbane (Reuters) - Ten people protesting at the building of a road in a rain forest in Cape Tribulation Park, Queensland, were arrested after they had buried themselves in front of a bulldozer. Other protesters chained and roped themselves to branches.

Fine gesture

Bonn-West German police in all states except Lower Saxony and West Berlin will show a spirit of goodwill to traffic offenders during the Christmas period by delaying postage of notices of fines. This is to avoid "disturbance of the family feast days".

Students shot

Peshawar (AFP) - Ten students were injured, one seriously, when police opened fire here on students from a commercial college, demonstrating for increased grants and a return to democracy in Pakistan.

Silent chimes

Copenhagen (AP) - The city's town hall clock stood still yesterday when 10 anti-nuclear demonstrators stopped the noon chimes from ringing for the first time since they were installed in 1903.

Nota bene

Rome (AP) - The Bank of Italy announced yesterday it will change all Italian banknotes at the beginning of the New Year. The new bills will be more sensitive to electronic machines used to detect fakes.

HAPPILY, THE BUCHANAN BLEND IS STARTING TO SHOW ITS AGE.



a smooth marriage between the consistency of grain whiskies and the character of malt whiskies.

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While James Buchanan went on to become a Peer, a philanthropist and the owner of two Derby winners.

THE BUCHANAN BLEND TODAY The Buchanan Blend may not be the easiest brand to find in the shops. But it rewards the determined seeker.

As already mentioned, the youngest whisky in the Blend is a full 8 years old.

Which is rare even among the good quality brands.

And another distinctive difference is the goodly measure of matured malt whisky that can be tasted in every dram of The Buchanan Blend.



A little extra maturity makes remarkable differences to whisky. That's why the minimum of 3 years maturing necessary to become a 'Scotch Whisky' is not enough for the quality brands.

It is exactly this pursuit of excellence which ensures that the youngest whisky in The Buchanan Blend is a full 8 years old - a fact now proudly displayed on the bottle.

Of course, you can find even older whiskies, but generally at much higher prices.

It is simply The Buchanan Blend's lot to be somewhat superior among the good quality brands.

ANOTHER AGE Apart from the new label, The Buchanan Blend has long shown its age in a quite different sense: it is one of the earliest of the great whisky names still enduring.

Back in the 1880s, whisky was unpopular outside Scotland.

It varied widely in quality and strength and many attempts were being made to balance the drink by blending.

One of the first men to succeed with such a blend was James Buchanan, once a £10-a-year Glasgow shipping clerk. His new 'Buchanan Blend' was

Moscow admits mishaps as cosmonauts tell of fuel leak on Salyut 7

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Soviet space officials have stated publicly for the first time that the orbiting space station Salyut 7 suffered a fuel leak recently and that a replacement cosmonaut crew had a narrow escape when their rocket launcher exploded. Both mishaps were earlier reported in the West but denied in Moscow.

At a Moscow press conference, Commander Vladimir Lyakhov, who spent 149 days on board Salyut 7 with engineer Aleksandr Aleksandrov, confirmed that they should have been replaced on 26 September, but there had been an accident on the launchpad.

The two replacement cosmonauts had been catapulted to safety, but their Soyuz mission was abandoned. "We were told immediately," Lyakhov said, "that our flight lasted longer than expected. Our programme of work was expanded."

Lyakhov and Aleksandrov finally returned to Earth on 23 November, using the same Soyuz T9 craft which had brought them to the space station. Officials could not confirm that the return had been hazardous. Lyakhov said they had not been in danger and could have returned at any time.

Vladimir Shtalov, the head of cosmonaut training, admitted there had been problems on Salyut 7 after a fuel leak in a

sub-system used for manoeuvring the giant 47-ton space complex. He said the sub-system had been closed down and the station had continued to function normally.



Commander Lyakhov: "We were not in danger."

American reports in November said Salyut 7 had begun to wallow badly after a propellant fuel leak, and that the two cosmonauts on board might have to be rescued.

Both Lyakhov and Aleksandrov described what could have turned into a serious crisis in calm, almost laconic terms, minimizing the hazards and emphasizing the scientific experiments carried out during the mission.

Aleksandrov described the "emotionally charged" experi-

ence of going outside the space station to install extra solar batteries supplied by the unmanned cargo craft Cosmos 1443 and Progress 18. He said knowing that only a thin space suit separated one from space was an extraordinary sensation. The Earth below was dark, "as in a shadow play", and small objects dropped by the cosmonauts looked like stars.

Mr Shtalov, striking a more prosaic note, said the solar batteries were for energy supplies used in experiments and had no connection with the fuel leak.

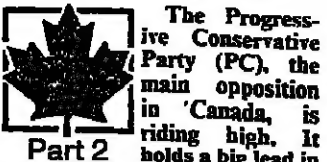
He said Salyut 7 was in good condition, and further crews would visit it next year, including an international crew containing Indian cosmonauts now being trained in Russia.

Officials told the press conference that in addition to the space station programme the Soviet Union was carrying out research into an American-style reusable shuttle craft but there were complications.

The two cosmonauts appeared to be fit and well, and said they had adapted quickly from weightlessness to Earth after initial difficulties in walking. Soviet scientists have expressed concern about the effects of prolonged weightlessness on the physical and psychological well being of the cosmonauts.

Canadian Tories rejuvenated by scent of victory Youthful image peps up the political contest

Concluding his series from Ottawa on the Canadian political scene, Ivan Barnes, Foreign News Editor, reports on the leadership of the two main federal parties.



Part 2

The Progressive Conservative Party (PC), the main opposition in Canada, is riding high. It holds a big lead in opinion polls over the governing Liberal Party and scents victory in the general election which must be held within 15 months.

Fundamental to its high morale is the new, young leader. Six months ago Mr Brian Mulroney, a 44-year-old businessman from Quebec, won the leadership. He entered the House of Commons in September with victory in a by-election in Nova Scotia, his first elective office.

One reason, above all others, probably led the Tories to choose Mr Mulroney: they saw him as a winner. They were shaking off the memory of Mr Joe Clark's muffled opportunity in 1979-80, when he briefly led the PC in a minority government.

Without doubt, the Tories have their best opportunity in decades to effect a fundamental change in Canadian politics. The prize for them is the return to the role of a truly national party, a party of government, not permanent opposition.

Ms Janis Johnson, the national director, brims with confidence. "For the first time



Toryism's new faces: Brian Mulroney and his wife Mila wearing the winning smiles that boosted party morale.

in ages", she said, "the party is positive, confident and disciplined."

The Liberals have allowed this, in her opinion, by their movement leftwards. "People

have had it up to here", Ms Johnson said, "with pseudo-socialism".

She talks easily of what improvements two terms of Tory government will make



John Turner: Young hope for the worried Liberals.

Many Liberals now see their man, Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister, as a loser. They want a young standard-bearer to match, and outmatch, Mr Mulroney.

One man is always mentioned in any list of replacements, should Mr Trudeau quit. Mr John Turner is named by Liberals as the probable front-runner whether they support the idea of his leadership or not, and despite the fact that he has been out of parliamentary politics for nearly eight years.

There is considerable antipathy between the two Liberals. Mr Turner may have been a crown prince for more than a decade, but there is no leader's blessing for this recognized heir, as has generally been the case for Liberals in the past.

Unless the looming Tory threat and its own desperate position cause Liberal minds to concentrate wonderfully, Mr Turner faces a contest, rather

than a walkover, if Mr Trudeau goes. Many hats could be in the ring.

Mr Turner, however, has a strong following. He has maintained a network of contacts in the party since he left government. At 54, he is 10 years younger than Mr Trudeau. He is an "Anglo" and the Liberal tradition that the two main language groups take turns as leader has not broken yet.

Most important is whether Liberals believe Mr Turner is their winner. If they do, the job could be his. Meanwhile, the beleaguered party awaits Mr Trudeau's decision and banks on the Tories making mistakes. That has certainly been the Tory way. Their last two administrations have shown a remarkable tendency for self-immolation. Mr Mulroney, sensibly, is keeping quiet on policy matters. Liberals are confident he will cause great fissures in his party once he is forced to take a stand.

It is the Grits (as the Liberals are commonly known) who win elections, who know how to run politics: Tories splinter, argue in public, ruin their chances.

At this stage, it seems that only a miracle can save the Liberals - with or without Mr Trudeau. The Tories know, however, that it would not be prudent to write off the party which has governed Canada for about 50 of the last 62 years, or the man who is the West's senior statesman.

Concluded

Prisoners of conscience



Uruguay:

Ismael Sena

By Caroline Moorehead

A 45-year-old telephone engineer, father of eight-year-old twins, is one of a growing number of Uruguayan political prisoners whose physical state is causing anxiety.

Ismael Sena, detained since 1975 and charged with "subversive association", has an untreated stomach ulcer. He shares a cell 6ft by 9ft with another prisoner and can leave it for only 45 minutes of exercise each day.

Senior Sena was a delegate for his union and worked in his home town of Montevideo when he and his wife, Alicia, were arrested in October, 1975.

Alicia was released in 1978, but her husband spent six months in detention blindfolded - and was, it is believed, repeatedly tortured - before being moved to a military barracks and then to Libertad prison, known for its harsh treatment and inadequate medical care.

Although no evidence was produced at his trial that he had used or advocated violence, Senior Sena was sentenced by a military court to nine years' detention. Despite petitions and the state of his health there is no suggestion of a reprieve.



Ismael Sena: Spent six months blindfolded.

Ershad's partial clemency

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

The new President of Bangladesh started his first full day in office by declaring that he was prepared to talk to any of the politicians about his timetable for restoring democracy.

Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad, the chief martial law administrator, who made himself President on Sunday began his new role by releasing four women political leaders who have been held under house arrest.

They were Begum Khalida Zia, widow of former President Ziaur Rahman; Shaikh Hasina Wajed, daughter of the late Prime Minister, Shaikh Mujibur Rahman; Mrs Motia Chowdhury and Mrs Ivy Rahman, both leaders of the Awami League.

Four male political leaders, however, who were arrested with them after the disturbances on November 28 remain in jail.

President Ershad's benevolence towards the politicians is very much linked to how they react to his offer of talks. He is plainly prepared to be flexible over the timing of presidential and parliamentary elections.

The politicians are keen to have parliamentary elections before presidential elections, so as to build themselves a power base in the country before tackling General Ershad in a presidential contest.

But on one of their demands he was quite inflexible: he will not withdraw martial law until after the elections have been held. "Some one has to run this country," he said. He is still not ready to lift the restrictions clamped down on political activity after the November 28 demonstrations.

Surrounded by a throng of journalists under the huge chandeliers of the Bangabhaban, the presidential palace, which used to be the home of the governors of East Bengal, he added: "I asked the politicians to explain what happened that day. But they couldn't."

The demonstration which started out quite mildly went out of hand as a crowd attempted to force its way into the government secretariat.

Swoop on ANC as sacred date looms

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Ten people were arrested in a police swoop on African National Congress (ANC) suspects believed to be involved in a plot to launch a terror campaign to coincide with South Africa's Day of the Vow on Friday, the most sacred date in the Afrikaner calendar. It commemorates the victory in 1838 of the Voortrekkers over the armies of the Zulu king, Dingaan, at the so-called Battle of Blood River. But it is also the anniversary of the formation of the ANC's military arm, Umkonto We Sizwe (Spear of the Nation).

A police spokesman in Pretoria said yesterday that further arrests were possible. General Johan Coetzee, Commissioner of Police, confirmed that large arms caches had been discovered after a shoot-out in the coloured township of Eldorado Park, near Johannesburg, last week.

One of the people arrested was a prominent ANC member, General Coetzee.

The shoot-out, he said, came during police investigations into an attempt in October to kill Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister.

Ozal Cabinet delayed

From Rasit Gardilek, Ankara

Mr Turgut Ozal, Turkey's conservative Prime Minister-designate, submitted the list of his Government to President Kenan Evren yesterday, only to be told that its scrutiny would take at least a day.

Mr Ozal chairman of the Motherland Party, which secured a safe majority in the 400-seat Parliament in last month's elections avoided giving any reason for the unaccustomed

delay in approval of the Cabinet list, he merely told reporters that the list would "probably" be made public today, hinting at "surprise appointments".

He declined to comment on speculation that the delay might be caused by the inclusion in the list of names outside Parliament, or to be more precise, those who were vetted earlier by the military regime.

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If two members of your household wish to open an account, please use both of these application forms provided. Additional application forms are available from the post office.



FASHION by Suzy Menkes

Exit Jennifer (stage left)

Just as *Cinderella* opens at the National Theatre this week, the principal lizard has slid offstage. Jennifer Hall, daughter of Sir Peter and film star Leslie Caron, has abandoned the boards after a quarter of a century (from birth to now) in the acting world. Last month she was Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, now her personal career of stardom is finished.

Jennifer Hall has her mother's mouth, her father's eyes, and a mind of her own. Her current change of career is for love and marriage — she is to marry farmer Alex Clive and swap the South Bank for apple orchards.

"Acting is something that takes up the whole of your emotional life," says Jennifer. "I wouldn't want to act half heartedly."

Her last dramatic switch of roles was when she abandoned Cambridge University three years ago to take up acting. "Then I was in love with acting but now I have changed." The path to the National Theatre was a provincial pavilion, a variety of parts from *Macbeth* to Beckett.

Variety is the spice of her life and of her wardrobe. She dresses, like her mother, in casual, even trousers and sporty separates. Yet she hankers for a glamorous style, a shimmering leather skirt or a cascade of spicy colour.

"I suppose that I haven't quite found my style yet," she admits. "I find that I am always changing. I used to wear garage mechanics overalls and awful old jackets. I never had a feeling about dressing up for the theatre. It was rather a question of dressing down."

Jennifer Hall is tall and striking with Leslie Caron's full lips. "I remember my mother telling me never to smile directly at the camera," says Jennifer. "She claimed it makes your face look fat. But I think that after years at film school being forced to do the MGM smile, she just never wanted to turn it on again."

Jennifer Hall's high-wattage smile beamed out at the sight of the clothes I had brought to the studio, especially Kent's bold, wide jacket with a peacock shirt and a pair of wide-brimmed brilliant colour.

"I love colour," she says. "My most important experience of colour was in India. I studied the philosophy in Madras and the depth of the green of the grass in the fields was simply delicious. England has always been a home, from school days at Bedale to undergraduate years at Cambridge, a brief taste of life in Chelsea and now the modest Gloucestershire countryside. But Jennifer Hall has no favourite British shop or designers, buying her clothes when she finds something that appeals. Her most recent change of image came not from a new outfit, but by cutting off her luxuriant chestnut-brown hair. Part of her, she says, feels



Left: Jennifer Hall wears Kent's checked jacket, bright shirt and flannel trousers (from Kent, 13 South Molton Street and 47 Sloane Street). Above: Les Galat Labrant's black suit with moustache buttons from Riva Glucke, 133 New Bond Street and 2507 Broadway, New York. Below: Jennifer Hall's mother, LESLIE CARON, Colour Graphics, Vespene Mary Grosvenor, Hair Shaun at DANIEL GILMAN. Photographs by JOHN SWANELL

French. One of her favourite fashion memories is "a week spent with my mother at the Plaza Athénée going round with her to see all the most amazing and wonderful French clothes. I was only about 11 or 12, and she bought me the most beautiful things. I've passed them on to my little half-sister."

Her father helped her through rep by reading parts with her. When they were physically much closer at the National Theatre, there was paradoxical little professional contact. He is now rather sad that she has given up acting "because the theatre means so much to him."

Asked whether she ever felt in the fashion shadow of her mother, she replied that her mother now lives in the country rather than in town.

But a little of the child Bedale's to undergraduate years at Cambridge, a brief taste of life in Chelsea and now the modest Gloucestershire countryside. But Jennifer Hall has no favourite British shop or designers, buying her clothes when she finds something that appeals. Her most recent change of image came not from a new outfit, but by cutting off her luxuriant chestnut-brown hair. Part of her, she says, feels



FASH BOOKS

Visual treats for Christmas

Fashion Drawing by Vogue (Thames and Hudson £20) is a big and beautiful book. Although Williams Packer's illustrations are actually drawing, they are of fashion — illustrations of fashion. The book is a collection of high quality, black and white, line drawings of fashion. It is a collection of the work of the main Parisian illustrators — many of them launched by Vogue magazine. Even the young Cecil Beaton, known for his lyrical camera work, used pen and ink on fashion socialites in 1933. Some of the most fascinating



studies are portraits, like Bouché's 1961 drawing of Jacqueline Kennedy.

In our own time, only the Spanish-born fashion illustrator Antonio has captured the sense of style which is vividly represented in the earlier work, right up to Eric's poignant studies of grand hats at the height of the war. (The search for artists in wartime encouraged Vogue to use the young Ruskin Spear). David Hockney writes an introduction and one displays his delicate drawing of Celia Birtwell in her own print dress as one of the many full colour pages.

Twentieth Century British Jewellery: 1900-1980 by Peter Hinks (Faber and Faber £27.50) is a serious book written with the lightness of touch that makes it interesting for a general reader as well as indispensable for students of the craft of jewellery. The art and craft story is the tale that Peter Hinks has to tell, from the movement of that name in the early part of this century to the designer-craftsman revival of our own time.

His discussion of changing fashions in jewelry (lavishly illustrated in colour and black and white) becomes a study of particular jewellers, as the school output in the 1970s explores a new image. Mr Hinks, the head of jewelry at Sotheby's, is particularly interesting about the explosion of design talent in the liberated shapes and lines of jewelry.

The surreal and fantastic strains in modern jewelry are paralleled by the *art nouveau* fascination with medievalism and mythology. Jokey and

How to get ahead at Christmas parties

Get on dressed for a party starts the top this Christmas. Hair is the simplest way to ring the changes for seasonal celebrations from now through to the New Year, and pretty accessories quickly transform an everyday style into night-wear.

Combs, and bands decorated with real feathers, shimmering sequins and net. These hairdresses are available at Clive's, 50 West End Lane, and can be ordered to match a special outfit. Fenwick has a wide range of velvet bows, jewelled hair slides to help the festive spirit get a grip on you.

Colourful lengths of unspun wool add a soft touch to wind-buffed locks. Molton Brown's Hair Knots can be twisted, plaited and knotted in any thickness or colour combination and come in a kit or by the metre.

The present mood for hair is to follow the can-can lines in clothes — big, voluminous and full of life. The hair should be styled in a way that is both elegant and playful. Before you begin to style, wash with a fine mist of setting lotion or water to make the hair more pliable.

Let the hair settle for a few minutes before you begin to style. Use a large, round brush to create a soft, voluminous look. For a more dramatic effect, use a smaller brush to create a more structured look.

Emerald-green sequins and ruby-faceted glass, £50.25 from Cliford Stafford, 79 Duke Street W1, and to order from the Knightsbridge salon.

Below: Soft roll knotted with unspun wool, seven colours in a kit, £5.95 from Molton Brown, 58 South Molton Street, W1; Harrods; Harvey Nichols; Liberty. Hair by Vicki, make-up by Elenka, both for Molton Brown. Photograph by NICK BRIGGS



Christmas jewelry seems to be a recurring theme, with some splendid smokers' accessories from the Brites when cigarettes are sophisticated and smart. Mr Hinks suggests that the festive party jewelry is designed "to emphasize the tenderness and vulnerability of the female creature." He is equally acute on the current trend towards jewelry as sculpture, designed against the natural lines of the female body that it is supposed to adorn. This "body sculpture" may be aesthetically pleasing but it widens the gap between designers and trade which the Arts and Crafts movement began.

The Fashion Year Book, General Editor: Brenda Polan (Zomba Books £12.50) is another generously illustrated book dealing with fashions here and now. The collections of 1983 in the world's various fashion capitals are photographed and reviewed in lucid profiles and studies (mostly by the editor). This makes an interesting guided tour through the maze of contemporary fashion and provides a good high fashion source book for fashion buffs or fledgling designers.



There's a wide selection of stylish formal wear at every branch of Young's. Impeccably tailored Evening Wear and Morning Wear that'll make you feel comfortably correct whatever the occasion. For your nearest branch see page 23

Hire or buy at **Young's** formal wear for men



Right: Soft roll knotted with unspun wool, seven colours in a kit, £5.95 from Molton Brown, 58 South Molton Street, W1; Harrods; Harvey Nichols; Liberty. Hair by Vicki, make-up by Elenka, both for Molton Brown. Photograph by NICK BRIGGS

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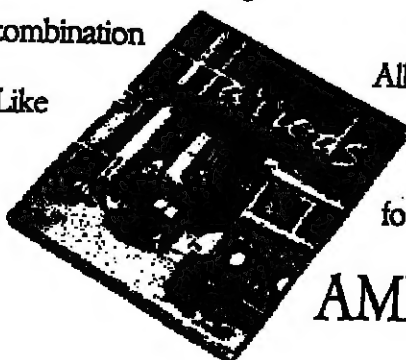
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Miles KingtonThe arts
& shock
horrorArts Round-Up: Tomorrow's Cultural
Headlines Now!

An enormous furor is building over a
portrait of the Queen - commissioned by
the Post Office.The offending picture of Her Majesty
appears on every stamp sold by the Post
Office over 100,000 counters up and
down the country. It shows her as a
young girl with a dress almost off the
shoulder, wearing a crown at a rather
jaunty angle."It's an absolute travesty," says art expert
Quentin Portfolio. "We all know that the
Queen is in late middle age, with the
dignified wrinkles and laugh-lines that
that entails. Yet here she is, portrayed by
some satirical upstart at the Post Office
as a sort of Sloane Ranger off to the Hunt
Ball for a spot of I-don't-know-what. I
am absolutely horrified. And they've also
missed the name of the country of the
stamp, now that I look. Whatever next?"The Palace has weathered the storm by
claiming that they have not seen the
offending stamp."Actually, we frank our outgoing mail
here," said a spokesnob, "and incoming
mail is taken out of its envelope before
we see it. So I haven't the faintest
idea what you're talking about. But rest
assured, if we had something to say on
the subject, we wouldn't say it."

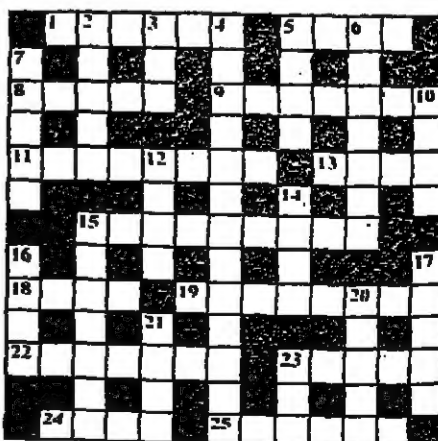
Jean 'ondel, the new smash musical at the
Old National, is soon to move to the
West End. That's the news from
impresario Zinka Rodent, who is
merchandising the transfer of *Jean
Bidel*, the smash hit about the girl
from America who toured Europe
looking for Richard Gere-de-Lyon.

Themed wing of CND has objected
vehemently to the screening of *Heseltine*,
a horror movie which shows what
would happen if Britain were taken over
by a blond superman with staring eyes,
according to *Heseltine*, nobody's mind
could be left unscathed by the
perfection and most of the population
would be left zombies."Heseltine is just a fictional character,"
says an IBA spokesbore. "He couldn't
appear in real life. So nuts to you,
ND."

The smash hit musical on in
the West End, is soon to move to the
Peter Hall Theatre, says impresario
Zinka Rodent. The show tells the story
of the 10,000 people who wrote every year
to the actress in Paris but never got an
answer. The music is by Marvo
Hamburger, who wrote Scott Joplin's
The Entertainer.

Is *Liked Chinese Music* a fake? That's the
question bothering a lot of people who
have read the biography of Harold Holt,
well-known classical impresario. The
book claims that Holt has been in the pay
of the Chinese all along, to infiltrate
Chinese music into the Wigmore Hall.
But no Chinese music has ever been
played there, say the detractors.
"True," says author Anthony Grey.
"But you've got to remember that Harold
Holt was a damned bad Chinese agent."

Bob Fosse's *Transferrin*, the red-hot
musical about a chorus line that could not
make it on Broadway, is believed to be
going on an out-of-town tour prior to its
disappearance. "If you say that in print,"
says impresario Zinka Rodent, "I'll sue
The Times for every penny it's got."

That's all for now, folks. More news about
the arts later if there ever is any news
about the arts.CONCISE CROSSWORD
(No 222)

- ACROSS
- 1 Advisor (6)
 - 2 Jacks (4)
 - 3 Jeering remark (5)
 - 4 Chuck (7)
 - 5 Elation (8)
 - 6 At summit (4)
 - 7 Tibetan leader (5,4)
 - 8 Conceal (4)
 - 9 Obvious (8)
 - 10 Concretions (7)
 - 11 Passing smell (5)
 - 12 Gloomy (4)
 - 13 Oath supervisor (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Furnish (5)
 - 2 Toddler (3)
 - 3 Remedy (1,3)
 - 4 Sand mound (4)
 - 5 Priest's cap (7)
 - 6 Soak (5)
 - 7 Long stride (4)
 - 8 Look lewdly (4)
 - 9 Pervent (4)
 - 10 Swindler (7)
 - 11 Stylish (4)
 - 12 Muscular (5)
 - 13 Tobacco pipe (5)
 - 14 Inter (4)
 - 15 Thai temple (3)

SOLUTION TO No 221

- ACROSS: 1 Camaraderie 9 Address 10 Spate
11 Eric 12 Ufot 16 Wisp 17 Oracle 18 Inch
20 Core 21 Bolero 22 Samp 23 Shah 25 Sew
28 Opera 29 Hardest 30 Breadwinner
- DOWN: 2 Audio 3 Anew 5 Ease
6 Imagine 7 Manumission 8 Hecplewhite
12 Relief 14 Soh 15 Cajole 19 Competer 20 Cos
24 Helix 25 Saga 26 Whew 27 Grin



On July 2, 1940, the founder of the
British Union of Fascists, Sir Oswald
Mosley, sat down before a government
committee appointed to advise on his
wartime internment and chaired by
Norman Birkett (left). The record of
the 16 hours of interrogation remained secret until
yesterday, when it was released by the Public Record
Office. In the following extract, Birkett began by
asking about the BUF's attitude to Jews...

MOSLEY: We started in 1932 quite
eminently without any thought of the
Jews, no more thinking of them than of
the Irish. I had never come across it as
a problem and most of our people had
not. During those two years we were
violently attacked by certain Jewish
interests. Our people were persecuted.
Our supporters were blackmailed by
Jewish interests. I had never looked
into the problem. I had at that time
never been to Nazi Germany, but I was
forced to regard the problem by the
action which they took against us.
There are many explanations for their
action: they may have seen what was
happening in Germany and feared we
were going to do the same thing, but
making all allowances, the fact is that it
was their action against us which
brought it to my notice and after one
or two warnings I violently attacked
them.

BIRKETT: On what grounds did you
attack them?
Their whole influence upon national
life. I should have said that I had
never looked into the problem in any
shape or form. I always actually
thought it was the work of cranks and
always, although they were so opposed
to us, I overlooked it and then I said
"Why are they so opposed to us?" We
want to stop certain things. We want to
stop international usury. We want to
stop the whole money-lending racket.
We do not like price cutting. Gradually
it dawned upon me that certain people
were very much engaged in these
things. I was compelled to look at the
Jewish problem by their opposition to
us and, having looked at the Jewish
problem, I developed what is called
anti-semitism.

In what year did you first make your
declaration against the Jews?
October 1934, the Albert Hall meeting.
I think it is about October 1934. It will
be recorded in the general papers. I
previously quarrelled that summer with
Lord Rothermere because he saw this
coming and he publicly demanded that
I should adopt the Conservative policy
and should not develop anti-semitism.
We had correspondence which was
published at the time on the subject,
and my first initial attack on the Jews
was October 1934. I had then never
been in Germany except once when
accompanying Mr Ramsay MacDonald
in the spring of 1929, when I
heard a funny man called Hitler had
started a funny movement. I did not
meet him.

You would appreciate that a policy of
hostility to the Jews at a time when
Jews were being oppressed in Germany

would not be very popular among
humane people in this country?
I think that anti-semitism here has
grown colossally in the last few years.
When we began it hardly existed.

Do you think the British Union
fomented it?
Yes, I think it is partly them, and
partly us.

Again, part of the policy of the British
Union is to stop all immigration, is it
not?
Stop all foreigners coming in, but
gradually and humanely get rid of all
foreigners who are here.

That is to say this country would no
longer be, as it was in the old days, an
asylum for the oppressed?
Oh, certainly.

And those who were here would be
expelled?
Gradually.

And the Jews would be expelled too?
Quite right.

Would they be allowed to take their
possessions with them?
Yes.

Even the "international racketeers" as
they are termed?
They would be subject, naturally, to
inquiry. They would get it like
anybody else.

They would come out of that inquiry
very badly, would they not?
Some, very badly.

And then they would not be allowed to
take anything?
But we apply the same rule to our own
people.

The attitude of the British Union to the
Jewish problem arose, I understand
you say, because they had attacked
your meetings and you thereupon gave
the problem some consideration?
Not only attacked our meetings, but
there was also the victimization of our
people employed by Jews.

In what sense - in the "sweated"
industries?
Simply dismissed: a girl known to be a
Blackshirt was dismissed.

By that time, 1934, the Jews in this
country had seen how their co-
religionists were being treated in
Germany?
Very likely that was so.

And they said, no doubt, "this Fascist
Movement in Britain is the same type
of movement existing in National
Socialist Germany?"
Yes.

You did adopt the Italian uniform, did
you not?
No. The coloured shirt? The uniform



actually was I think a mistake. It was
an idiosyncrasy of my own: it was
based on the fencing jacket, a sport of
which I was very fond, and the Italian
actually was quite different from our
uniform but the colour was the same.

Black?
Yes. We began with the grey shirt. I did
not want to be like any foreign
movement, and it did not succeed,
people did not like it, and people
wanted the black shirt, which was
opposite to the red they were fighting.

May I say, on this question of
uniform and what is called dressing up
and all the nonsense as they call it, that
the basic idea is to put over a new
movement in a hurry, to do which you
have to adopt completely new ideas.
You have an apathetic public who are
not prepared to notice anything new,
and you have to wake them up and
make them sit up. I do not suppose it
would be believed for one moment,
but I first had the idea of dramatizing
politics not in Italy or Germany but in
the town of Durham where I used to go
every year when I was elected to speak
to the Durham Miners' Gala. Every
year a hundred thousand miners, I
think, used to march into that town
with their bunting and bits of colour,
march in formation with as much
spectacle as they could possibly
manage. It then occurred to me: "Why
do these people do that? It has
obviously a profound psychological
motive of some sort."

The answer was their lives are very
dull, the British working class and
lower middle class have very dull and
drab lives, and I came to the
conclusion that one of the reasons why
the Labour Party was not succeeding
was because they were even duller in
their presentation of things than the
masses to whom they were appealing.
The one thing the masses wanted was
dramatic colour, and all these silly
things, if you like, which the cinema
gives to them. I then decided to
dramatize politics, and introduce the
marching, the dressing up, the symbol-
ism and all the rest of it.

It is suggested that there is reasonable
ground for believing that Italian money
came. What do you say with regard to
that?

I say I do not for one moment believe
that, and I cannot see why it should be
suggested. I have, as I told you,
divorced myself with very great care
from the financial side. At the period
in question, in particular this period,
we quite obviously had the support of
very big capitalists. I had not the least
difficulty in raising large sums of
money for the New Party.

That is to say there is the possibility
that Italian money did come to the
British Union of which you have no
knowledge?

Obviously it is possible; but I will say
this, that I have always throughout
given instructions, or at least given
my advice, that no money
should ever be accepted except from
British subjects, and provided it was
given without condition.

Who would know if any money came
from Italy?
Any collector who had done it, I
suppose, who had got it.

But would he be authorized, so to
speak, to go to Italy to try to obtain
money?
He would not.

Let me deal with it in this way. First of
all, you made a good many visits to
Italy, did you not?

I made a lot of visits to Italy, beginning
with May 1920, and I went to Italy
whenever I had an opportunity, and to
France still often.

On these visits, did you see Mussolini?
That was the first time I ever met
Mussolini. . . . I can save a lot of
trouble by saying I met Mussolini at
least half a dozen times in my life
beginning before the movement
started, and if I went to Italy I would
always, if it were convenient, see him.

Why was that?
Because he was at that time the most
interesting man in the world.

Did you discuss with him the
your movement?
No, not in any way. The foundation of a
No, not in any way. The foundation of a

Was the question of general political talk
party discussed seven or eight years ago.
Oh, naturally, discussed the whole
The question with him since the
movement was founded, certainly I
discussed it, but I do not think there was any
discussion on that point when I first
met him, because I think it was before
the movement was ever formed.

What is the explanation of the support
of the British Union and its policy of
other movements, by Mussolini against
Abyssinia, by Hitler against
Czechoslovakia and elsewhere?
No, I do not support their movements.

Would many of your supporters
actively assist Germany?
No, I do not think so, certainly not. . . .

I do not believe among my own
supporters there are any at all who
would even sympathize with Germany
in a struggle against this country, let
alone help her. After all, many of my
people are in the forces.

Let me put a matter that may at first
sight seem a little irrelevant. You need
not trouble about it if it is, but there
was a period when Lord Rothermere
was giving you large sums of money,
was there not?
Yes, certainly.

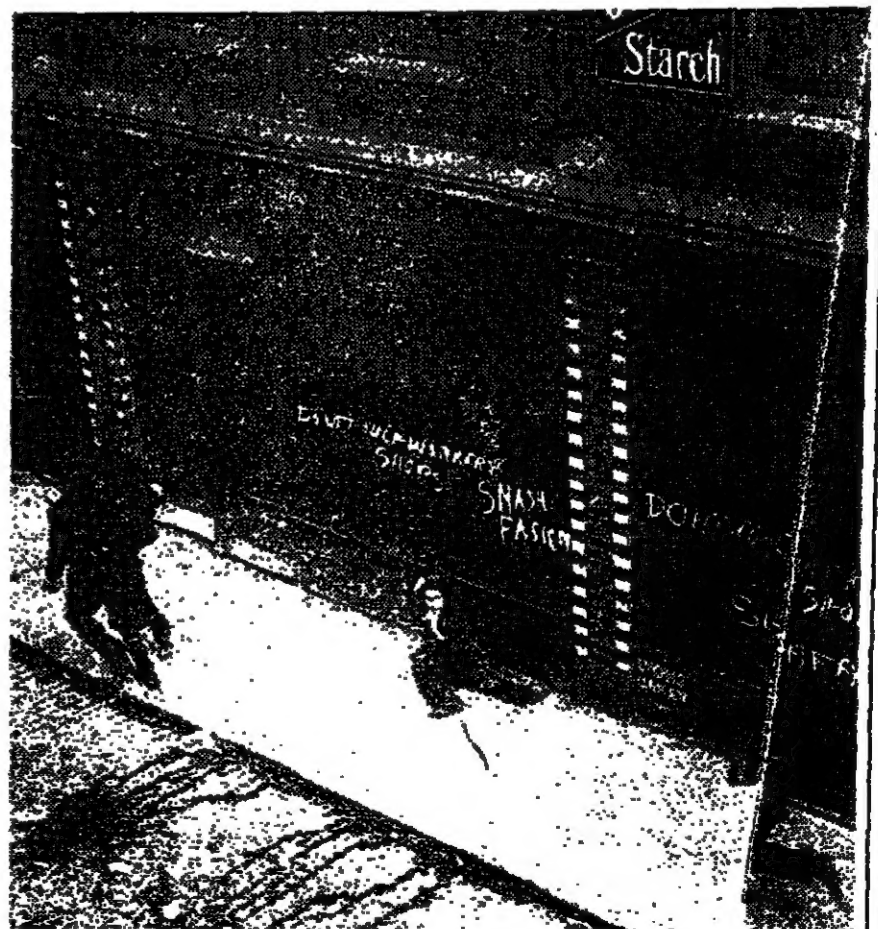
Did they appear in your books?
This is in confidence. He was one of
the three people who insisted on
subscribing through me, and Rother-
mere insisted on subscribing through
me. One was a stockbroker, and the
other was a Conservative MP whom I
prefer not to mention.

Did they go through the books?
I think you would find them under the
entry of a gift from me. Rothermere
stipulated that the transaction should
be done through me. When he did it
that was the beginning of his relation-
ship with us but whether he later gave
large sums I do not know.

Going through the books, without any
knowledge of Lord Rothermere's gift,
nobody would be able to discover from
the books that Lord Rothermere had
been a contributor.
No, certainly not.

Why?
For reasons, I gathered, which I
subsequently found to be true, that his
advertisers threatened to boycott him,
and that was why the *Daily Mail*
stopped backing us, and the Jewish
advertisers, Lyons and those sort of
people. He was frightened out of his
wits, most of these businessmen were.
For instance, Lord Nuffield, as was
common knowledge in the early days
of our party, gave us large sums of
money, but he even went so far as to
publish in the *Jewish Chronicle* that he
was not supporting us because his cars
would have been the subject to a
boycott. I do not say that Nuffield
supported us afterwards, but these men
were at colossal pains to hide their
connexion with the movement; in fact
it was a joke among our people that
lengths these people would go to
conceal their connexion.

● The article about Andre Prey
announced yesterday, will appear at
a later date.



Top: Police chasing demonstrators during the Cable Street riots between the
anti-semitic Mosley fascists and their opponents. Above right: Lord Rothermere,
donor of secret funds, with Hitler in 1937. Above right: Lord Rothermere,
another covert source of funds.

AN OCCASIONAL COMMENTARY ON
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Yes, Henry, I know I said I was going to a
matinee. I changed my mind, went to Fortnum's instead
and stocked up for Christmas. Now that's what I call
entertainment. Just look at all these fabulous things.

I've got a York Ham cooked on the bone, a
Terrine of Foie Gras aux Truffes du Perigord, a whole
baby Siltan, some Smoked Salmon, a small Truckle
Cheddar, and as a special treat some Beluga Caviar.

No, Henry, it's not a lot really. We must have
enough for the unexpected guest - and we'll have plenty
of those if people hear we bought all our Christmas
goodies at Fortnum's.

Don't drop that, Henry - it's a Whisky Decanter.
Of course it's heavy - it's full of 12 year old malt whisky
and you know how fond you are of that. Oh, bother,
I've told you what I'm giving you for Christmas.

If you haven't done your Christmas shopping yet,
Fortnum's is open until 6pm on Weekdays and 5.30pm
on Saturdays.

Fortnum & Mason
such stuff as dreams are made on

Piccadilly London W1A 1ER. Telephone 01-7343040



مكتبة الأصيل

THE ARTS

BBC1 tonight screens a dramatization of Rex Warner's novel *The Aerodrome*. Robin Chapman, who wrote the script, here reflects upon the problems of turning book into play

Why the dramatist must always aim to be explicit

Peter Firth in *The Aerodrome*



dramatizer those people and landscapes will be on view; all novels are historical, all plays modern. The novel can choose to be explicit or implicit. Certain things can only be left unsaid or merely hinted at, so that the reader's imagination is free to work on a realistic level. Drama cannot do this - before all else an audience must know what is happening on a realistic level. Drama cannot be impressionistic for long. Towards an unexpected action for a minute or so, but then the expected must occur even if it is only a letter being posted through a door to join others already lying on the mat. A perfect example of the evocative power of implication in the novel would be the problem of the 'nightwalk' in *The Aerodrome*. Here the question is: Has Heathcliff entered Cathy again? Put like that seems comic and if the question is

answered in the affirmative and then dramatized, it could easily become even more so on screen. But that does not mean the dramatist can ignore it. As readers we already know that Heathcliff has opened Cathy's coffin once before and made certain panel arrangements with the sexton, so that when he comes to be buried there on the other side of Cathy from her husband Linton he will have easier access to his dead love. How a corpse moves across to embrace another is not a question Emily Brontë need answer, of course, nor whether on his 'nightwalk' Heathcliff checked the coffin arrangements again and embraced the beloved corpse once more. But a dramatist needs to know or at least decide from the evidence available. Did he, didn't he? And if you decide Heathcliff did, do you dramatize his nightwalk? Or if you decide he did not die Cathy up again, do you pretend the implication is not there in the original when it deliberately and powerfully yet imprecisely is?

Of course Emily Brontë is not in the business of the dramatist's everyday country folk realism - she is in the way of returning her characters to the moorland folklore of which they sprang; they are to be as they were in life. *Wuthering Heights* will never be easy to dramatize and probably never should be. What does a dramatist actually do with a more majestic masterpiece? I agree, I like it, preferably admire it, but I respond to some major aspects. Then I read it again with as open a mind as possible - trying this second time to receive the book simply as it is, suppressing any likes or dislikes, forcing myself to have no opinion just as I do when at work on a novel or a play. At this early stage, opinion can prejudice invention. After this the first consideration is whether the book's spirit is best reflected in a single screenplay or in several episodes. The impact (let

alone the dramatic construction) of a 90-minute screenplay is quite different from that of a four or six-part serial. The former is like a specially exhibited major painting, the latter a gallery hung with related tapestries. There is more theatrical heat and energy in a single screenplay than in a serial and some novels are better suited to one than the other. For example, the Kafkaesque surrealism of *The Aerodrome* is more effectively realized in a single concentrated burst of dramatic fire than in serial form. To serialize it would be to ask an audience to accept the family relationships in the story at a more realistic level than Warner's clean comedy intends. The narrative consideration is the first and most important. If it is a first-person narrative, I decide whether it is best to make it explicit or implicit. As we know, a text changes every time it is read: how much more does it change when it is transposed from one medium to another with pictures replacing literature's moral landscapes?

flavour? An example: John Mortimer, rightly decided that in *Brideshead Revisited* Charles Ryder had to remain as the narrator/author/surrogate Waugh. Transpose the book's events into third person drama, with the camera casting a coldly objective eye, and the subject would dissolve into a miasma of *Vogue*-ish occasions; Waugh's popish Bunburying is chiefly made palatable by Ryder's tone of voice.

I then make a list of all the actions as they occur in the book. Every single action in order. This list-making is a rather childish, reductive and informative part of the job. Absolutely necessary because in actions (dramatic action takes longer to be performed and viewed than in equivalent on the page takes to read) so inevitably there are choices to be made: can we have the fire and the near drowning, or should one of these stand for both?

Apert from selecting the actions that you believe best represent the author's intention, you also have to consider the order in which they happen; the sequence in the book may not be that best suited to the screen. Truffaut's dictum, a film should have a beginning, a middle and an end, but not necessarily in that order, always applies. These preparations are necessary because the dramatist must be in command of his material. He must have experienced and absorbed it so that in writing the screen version he need not refer continually to the original; do that and a jerky precis with odd emphases is likely to result. Overall comprehension leaves the dramatist free to be imaginatively faithful to the original author. All in all, by virtue of the processes I have described, the dramatist becomes a creative literary critic: he makes a play for the screen out of his selective analysis of the primary material, frequently having to make explicit what was implicit. As we know, a text changes every time it is read: how much more does it change when it is transposed from one medium to another with pictures replacing literature's moral landscapes?

Television Killing society

BBC's Panorama set out last night to expose the inadequacies of the law relating to deaths on the roads, the ambivalent attitude of courts and police to this kind of "social killing", and the "total collusion" between courts and insurance companies to keep compensation low and hard to get. The reporter Margaret Jay and the producer Tom Bower made an alarming, convincing job of it.

They examined several cases, talking to those who had killed, relatives of those who had been killed, police and prosecutors. Miss Kay's incisive questioning left several hanging on the ropes. The worst case, which qualified because of the numbers involved, was that of Ron Bolton who, he said, had fallen asleep at the wheel. His 32-ton lorry ploughed into a stationary mini-bus on the M6 and wiped out a family of seven Asians. He was fined £320 for careless driving and £325 for altering his tachograph, and disqualified from driving for a year. He altered the tachograph to conceal a stop in Birmingham to see his girlfriend. Police, admitted Supt Waring, of the Greater Manchester force, who was in charge of the investigation, had not interviewed the girl to examine whether Mr Bolton's sleepiness was culpable. She had not been regarded as a material witness. Supt Waring spoke of the difficulty of producing evidence which would have been required for a more serious charge. It was necessary, he said, to prove that a driver took a risk knowing what the end-product of it would be. Arnold Singer, chairman of the Wigan Bench, who heard the case, conceded that he had been "a little surprised that the lesser charge was brought". Mr Bolton - who, it was said, had no intention of paying the fine, though he volunteered that he had received pound notes as well as congratulations from members of the National Front - said it was "just the kind of thing that happens". He subsequently described himself as a "man who did not give a damn for anybody".

Panorama also examined the American situation where, thanks to pressure from lobbies such as the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), legislation making social killing less free from appropriate consequences. This was a first-class programme with *Panorama*, as it were, out of church for once.

quality of land will take July...

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Recently I read a preview of the final episode of Troy Kennedy Martin's adaptation of Angus Wilson's *The Old Men at the Zoo*, in which the adapter was rebuffed for making what had been implicit in the novel explicit on screen.

There are, of course plenty of misconceptions about the job of adapting novels for television. Perfectly intelligent well-read persons can and do assume that you just "do the dialogue". They are often surprised when you say you are equally concerned with what is seen as what is heard. "Oh, I thought the director did the visuals!" they reply. At this point you take a deep breath - well, I do - and either change the subject, or else tough it out with a lecture on the mode of the narrative voice: first person versus third tends to switch pretty well everybody off, which is not to say I shall not come back to it.

Perhaps some prevalent misunderstandings come from the term "adaptation" itself. "Dramatization" is also used but not so widely, though it does describe the job more precisely. Adaptation suggests something akin to editorial abridgement (condensed classics) rather than the more muscular business of expressing a novel in dramatic terms. Some novels, of course, lend themselves more readily to the process - clearly *Oliver Twist* would be easier to dramatize than *The Waves*.

And that brings me back to Kennedy Martin's previewer who appeared momentarily unaware that the job of the dramatist is always to be explicit. There are no exceptions to this rule. Nor does the explicitness of drama mean it cannot be subtle or imply infinitudes of unexpressed emotion (take Chekhov), but the dramatist achieves such ineffabilities only by way of specific actions, however large or small.

Theatre is the verb, not the adjective. Joan Littlewood used to say, and here we have the crucial difference between novel and drama - a novel is essentially descriptive, a play essentially active. A novel can be action-packed, but it will still be a chronicle of described people moving in described landscapes. For the

A message of entranced delight

Variety is always the spice of life in Cork Street, and seldom more than at this time of year, when London's commercial galleries, even the grandest, hope against hope that the Christmas spirit will descend like a benison and people will buy paintings, if not for themselves, at least for one another. There is, of course, as they say, no obligation to purchase, so whether your taste in Christmas presents runs to enormous canvases by Julian Schnabel at over £30,000 apiece or to tiny watercolours around the £35-50 mark, or whether you just like to look, a little rambles along Cork Street should be well worth your while - especially since it boasts at the moment two completely new galleries for your delectation.

You might start with Browse and Darby, who have a wholly beguiling show of paintings by James Reeve (until December 21), including exquisitely detailed oils of a Somerset farmyard, watercolours of eastern scenes and some beautifully finished studies of seashells on a beach. Whatever the medium, the message is one of entranced delight in the world about us. Next door, at the Redfern, is an in general lightweight but highly enjoyable show of Prints and Literature (until December 31), which ranges confidently from Barnett Freedman's lithographs for *Jane Eyre* to Picasso's sketches for Ovid. Some of the pieces are very familiar, and some very rare, but all-in-all they make a cheery assemblage. Cross the road to the Piccadilly Gallery, and you will find an equally varied Christmas Exhibition with some lovely Symbolist and Art Nouveau drawings, a couple by the improbably named Uriel Birbaum of

particular interest, and a wonderfully characteristic Bathus drawing of a girl preparing for a bath. At this point you might as well go back to the Robert Fraser and Mayor Galleries, which between them are extending a show of Dali Drawings from the Edward James Collection (until December 21). James was one of Dali's prime patrons, the Thirties, and notoriously had the pick of his production, so it is not surprising that for those, like myself, who cannot quite take Dali, and mainly cannot take his series, the evidences are immensely impressive. He certainly has a cunning way with a pencil, and some of his most beloved fantasies - women dressed as drawers, everyone topped with multiple crabs - find better forms here than in his paintings. And sometimes, like the visionary *Autumnal de Laureano dix-neuf ans*, do haunt one, the back of the Mayor Galleries are recent collages by Roland Penrose, funny and mischievous by turns.

Strongly tied to representation, of his weird kind, is Ken Kiff, who is showing in Cork Street at Nicola Jacobs Gallery (until December 23). What he represents is a dream - or sometimes a nightmare - world of his devising, in which dwarfish monsters of all kinds proliferate through moments of beatitude and things out. A number of brilliantly coloured new pieces, as well as the violent charcoal drawings, seem to reflect on the role of woman in this world. Kiff may be an

acquired taste, but at least once you have seen his works, like them or not, you are never likely to forget them or confuse them with anyone else's.

The Waddington Galleries are difficult to fit into a neat itinerary of Cork Street because by now they seem about ready to take over; as well as numbers 34 and 31, they have recently acquired 11, one of the new spaces I mentioned, surprisingly big and eminently suitable for the showing of the sort of large painting people will paint these days. Just as well, since along with Mick Moon paintings at 41, and Haydon Graphics at 31, they have an extensive show of new work by Julian Schnabel (until December 23). Mr Schnabel told me a little while ago that there was no point in his showing in Britain, as no one in Britain could afford him. Perhaps he has changed his mind, and indeed most of the paintings in this show seem already to be sold. He has certainly changed his style a bit; no more the encrustations of broken pottery in paint inches deep. Instead we have a development from the simple drawings (very large-scale) which he has been doing of late, by the addition of more or less arbitrary flows of translucent paint and splodges of thicker colour which have the modish advantage of suggesting the current American revival of interest in the procedures of Abstract Expressionism without being totally subservient to it. In spite of his success, Schnabel seems to be a gifted painter of whom more may reasonably be expected.

Finally, the other new gallery, the Odette Gilbert at number 5. This has for its opening show an



Intermittently impressive: detail from Dali's *Naissance de l'ameublement paranoïaque*

anthology of Twentieth-Century British Artists which holds out a decided promise for the future. The stated intention of the gallery is to find new talents but also to seek out admirable artists of senior generations who have somehow slipped from public consciousness, whether because of fashioning *The Coral Necklace* somewhere between Spencer and Balbus (if you can imagine it), is perhaps the most striking single thing in the show. Among the newcomers Alan Lambirth, last year's Royal Academy Gold Medalist, seems like someone to look out for. As for the gallery itself, one can only wish it well, these hard times, and suggest you continue to watch this space.

John Russell Taylor

Imagination Hammersmith Odeon

The first surprise was the discovery that, although the members of Imagination may have black skins, they are not what is crudely known in the trade as a "black act": their audience was solidly pink and white, with an average age of about 17 and a preponderance of shrill girls whose attention, it became apparent, was fixed as firmly on the cut of Lee John's satin shorts as on the easy sensuality of the songs - such as "Body Talk", "Just an Illusion" and "In the Heat of the Night" - that have kept the trio in the pop charts of Britain and Europe for the past couple of years.

To these ears, Imagination's records are as convincing as any rock music on this side of the Atlantic: no "Made in Britain" tag peeps out above the collar. Indeed, the clever layering of

Pop music

electronic keyboards devised by their producers, Tony Swaine and Steve Jolley, is more suggestive of the sophisticated discotheques of Continental Europe; perhaps that explains why they are Caroline of Monaco's favourite group and why they do not find similar acceptance among young British Blacks.

In any event, their show turned out to be rather impressive. A reputation for campiness and silly costumes proved only partly justified: the preening was consistently pricked by a self-aware humour, and the threads could not disguise either their highly developed musicality (their drummer was surely the first to have perfected a minuet of the hard crash and machine-gun rattle of the fashionable percussion synthesizers) or their ability to make a four-bar bass pattern, a keyboard texture and a fragment of lyric evoke a mood. The lush slow-motion funk of

Body Talk

"Body Talk" and "Music and Lights" were what most of us turned up to hear: built on keyboard bass, they did not suggest a broader range as "In and Out of Love", which fused the brisk, big attack of Chic with the Police's scuzzed reggae, but the newer material (from their current LP, *Schizophonia*) indicated that they are now running out of commercial hooks. More positively, one was left with impressions of the versatility of Ashley Ingram, who performed well on electric piano, guitar and bass, of the surprising vocal flexibility of Lee John, and of the scarcely credible physical dexterity of the four young body-popping dancers whose routines were memorably showcased during one section of a show which worked hard to entertain and generally succeeded.

Richard Williams

Both deaf and blind

How do you explain things to someone who is both deaf and blind? Life will be a constant struggle and most work will be quite impossible. Do you think that you could cope? The RNID's residential services have been expanded to include provision for deaf/blind youngsters and for deaf people who have been mentally ill. We also promote medical research and provide extensive scientific, technical, educational, welfare and information services. Will you help us? RNID. The Royal National Institute for the Deaf.



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Please send what you can afford to RNID, Room D3, 163 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH. For details telephone 01-387 9833.

InterContemporain/Boulez Barbican

Midway through the Olivetti Webern Cycle, Pierre Boulez and his crack ensemble from Paris arrived to prove, to encouraging and enthusiastic audiences that it is perfectly possible to enjoy Webern, and very nearly possible to perform him. Scores so attenuated, and finely tuned will always seem a little degraded when turned into the rude stuff of sound, but Boulez knows from the experience of a quarter-century how to make Webern's music spring to rhythmic life, and in his Ensemble InterContemporain he has players who can not only bring individual rarity and intensity to so many tiny phrases but also work together in breathing those phrases into larger patterns. Most spectacular, because most unexpected, was their success with the Concerto for nonet, which normally sounds like a game of three-dimensional chess. On Sunday it was still a game, but one with more

Concerts

important issues than mere pattern: there was wit, playfulness and even nostalgia and desperate clinging across the music's troubled surfaces. By the Quartet with saxophone of the same period seemed barren thing, perhaps because it needs to be done by a conductor, but these mountainous abstract symphonies, was beautiful, with solo strings to its fragility and sensuousness. Those were qualities of Phyllis Bryn-Julson, in both the ensemble and concerts, during the of which she took on all the songs for voice and ensemble. One would have to be both a Brn and a Melissande to just it, but Miss Bryn-Julson is more the Melissande, has the technique of singing a tender sigh that most requires. She was lovely pair of little Rilke songs one to his own words. Webern did not publish his because it speaks openly of his grief at the of his mother, the grief

Debuts

The Greek pianist Aleka Simeonidou laboured under severely disabling conditions in her recital at St James's Church in Piccadilly. For one thing, the acoustic is hopelessly resonant, blurring every musical detail. Worse, the resident piano sounds as though it has suffered all the torments of the average school hall instrument. It was not in tune, and possessed no perceivable subtlety or richness of colour. The tiny audience did nothing to help the atmosphere either. One might have been forgiven for thinking that one had stumbled across the funeral of a recluse. Under these trying circumstances, Miss Simeonidou played gamely. She was most successful in Beethoven's Piano Sonata in C minor, Op 111, singing in the Arietta to keep theme well to the fore, never complex. Beethoven's

Paul Griffiths

expressed more obliquely in very much of his music. Of the later songs, one ought to feel more the splinter of grief in the penitential Five Canons with clarinet, but Miss Bryn-Julson's soft, intimate, wholly unworried naturalness in the wildly difficult Op 18 group rightly made them into a sweet hymn to the Virgin. Grief and piety: possibly these are things too personal for festivals, too touching to be experienced again and again as work follows work. But Webern is finding his public.

Stephen Pettitt

Under these trying circumstances, Miss Simeonidou played gamely. She was most successful in Beethoven's Piano Sonata in C minor, Op 111, singing in the Arietta to keep theme well to the fore, never complex. Beethoven's

THE TIMES DIARY

By-the-way election

After the unruly goings-on last week at a meeting of Brent Council, Neil Kinnock condemned the local rent-a-mob but also said: "My personal view is that if individuals have not sufficient sense of honour to put themselves before the electorate when they change their party allegiance, consideration must be given to introducing legislation which would make fresh elections mandatory." It is thought that he was referring to Mrs Ambrose Neil, who switched from Labour to Conservative in Brent, and not to Mr Gordon Ley, who formally rejoined the Labour group on Lambeth Council two weeks ago. Mr Ley stood as an SDP candidate in 1982, after defecting from Labour. His return to the fold is unlikely to be marked by a by-election.

Never-never

The Bangkok branch of Chartered Bank is missing £3m - but has turned down an offer by an absconding clerk to return it. The clerk sent a telegram promising to pay it back in monthly instalments of £3,000 - interest-free. The bank pins its hopes of getting most of it back in one lump sum via Interpol.



● In case you were unclear as to whose birthday Christmas is supposed to celebrate, Robert Maxwell's greetings card this year shows his home, Headington Hill Hall, against a firework-filled sky and the lit-up legend, "Happy Birthday Bob". Mr Maxwell turned 60 on June 10.

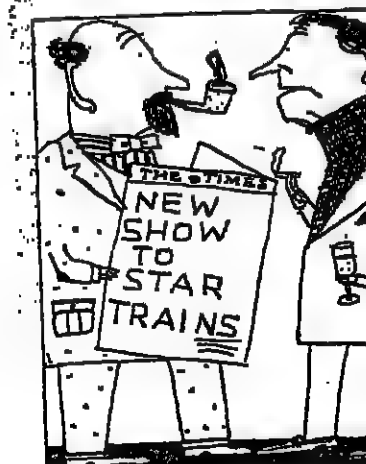
Hard lines

Tomorrow night, Channel 4 presents its Arts Review of 1983, presented by Melvyn Bragg. The items include a review of the Channel 4 arts programme, by analysis of *The One and Only*. Davies, Channel 4's arts editor, says his television review is a protesting letter piece, in "a sense of drama and drama and drama". He is also chief executive of Channel 4, from Michael Kusnetzky, and Channel 4's commissioning editor for the arts and the man responsible for commissioning *The Orchestra*.

Freeloading

The best thing that can happen to us about anywhere is to be designated a freepoint. Thus labelled, a town can buy goods, turn them into something completely different, export them again and not pay any duty. Nor surprisingly, the Government has received 45 applications from areas wishing to become freepoints, and will decide in January which are to be among the lucky four or five chosen. In Scotland, competition is fierce between Prestwick and Aberdeen. Prestwick has waged a year-long campaign, but Aberdeen is coming up fast. Outside, its promoters are giving 15 influential MPs breakfast at Burke's Club tomorrow and, to make the occasion a whole lot cushier, is ferrying them there and back in a fleet of taxis.

BARRY FANTONI



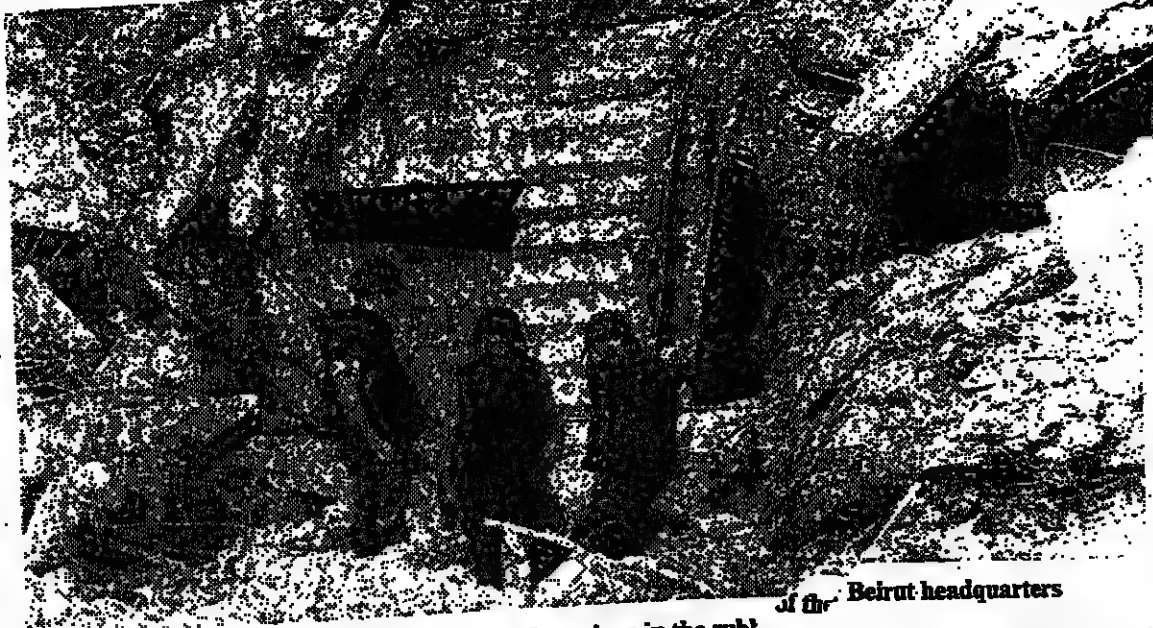
"Let's hope it opens on time"

Loose talk

It must be something to do with the time of year, all these examples of slightly slurred language landed on my desk on the same morning. From the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn: "The first Mess of Sunday is held each Saturday of the Dining Room at 6.00 pm." From "Royal Shakespeare Restaurants": "This Company does not impose a SERVICE CHARGE as such; however the labour cost element is based at 15 per cent." From "Fire News": "In this subsection, the relevant building, in the case of a building, means that building, and, in the case of a matter connected with a building, means the building with which the matter is connected." And from a firm of solicitors in Kent: "These offices will be closed from midday on Friday December 23 1983 until 9 am on Tuesday January 3 1984. In emergency matrimonial, children and criminal matters telephone - In case of death telephone -"

PHS

Henry Stanhope puts the Kuwait bombings in a world perspective Kamikaze: is London at risk?



After the October 23 kamikaze bomb, US marines in the rubble

Beirut on October 23 that alerted western security experts to the devastating effect of a truck piled high with explosives, driven at speed through outer defences by men willing to die in the attack.

Precautions against the threat have been taken by a number of forces since then, conspicuously by the Israelis in southern Lebanon. Most of their bases there have now completely disappeared from view behind 20-ft walls of earth.

The Israelis have spent huge sums of man-hours trying to dig out most fail-safe schemes of their own attacks which, it is at least one could occur without a discovered national boundary.

Kamikaze raids have confronted security forces with enormous difficulties since the Second World War when Japanese pilots, their bomb-bays packed with high explosive, dived on to the decks of allied warships in the Pacific.

In recent years the readiness of fanatics to die for their faith has been well evidenced in the Middle East and Northern Ireland - where the hunger strikers from the IRA chose a lonely martyrdom largely

stopped a few yards short of its objective.

This is why the epic, at large on early intervention, like those at central install checkpoints have been several hundred yards from the main entrance.

US officials see the Rangoon bombing which killed several South Korean ministers as another example of the latest wave of international terrorism. Great attention is therefore being paid to the protection of US missions abroad - many of them housed in buildings constructed long before architects had to consider stringent security measures.

In Beirut, the American and French contingents in the multinational force have been daily improving their defences. Even as the American embassy in Kuwait was being devastated, US marines at Beirut airport were shoring up their new underground shelters, constructed out of long-abandoned Soviet container trucks.

Warnings of fresh attacks reach the French and American troops almost daily, sometimes passed on by their own embassies elsewhere in the Arab world, and sometimes coming from the Lebanese Deuxieme Bureau.

But despite a conviction by the

Lebanese administration that Iran and Syria are deeply implicated in planning such attacks, the CIA in Beirut has not been able to identify the enemy very precisely. Moreover, the evacuation of the PLO last year robbed the Americans of much of their intelligence about the Beirut underworld.

The US marines have moved their combat headquarters - to the western side of an airport runway that lies along the sea coast - in an attempt to avert further attacks. The airport road which runs to the east of the marines' perimeter has had concrete blocks placed along one end of the compound and a 20ft steel gate is being installed at one end from it between earth embankments and past concrete bunkers to a second gate.

Even so, a US television crew entered the compound through a little-known entrance several days ago and went completely unchallenged until inside the base.

Earthworks have been thrown up outside the French paratroopers' base, with checkpoints from which approaching cars are covered with anti-tank weapons.

Outside the British embassy, which now houses the office of the US ambassador, whose embassy was bombed in April, US marines prevent civilian traffic from passing and even turn back Lebanese army personnel. If they do not know their enemy they at least realize that their enemy could lie among their friends.

Robert Fisk spells out the significance of tomorrow's talks at No 10



Men of the British peace-keeping contingent: their base has already come under one sustained attack by Muslim militiamen; now there are fears that heavy casualties are only a matter of time

If the Lancers go, so might Gemayel

Just over the horizon from Beirut, HMS Fearless rides out the fierce winter storms of the eastern Mediterranean. Officially, she is cruising off the Lebanese coast as a support ship for the tiny British contingent to the multinational force, the 97 men of the 16th/5th Lancers who are living in a derelict factory in the city's southern suburbs.

In reality, Fearless is there to evacuate the British if the going gets rough: which is one reason why President Gemayel of Lebanon flies to London today for an appointment with Mrs Thatcher.

Mr Gemayel is not told all that goes on in his broken country but he has been fully informed about the attack on the British headquarters at Hadeth on December 2. According to the Ministry of Defence in crossfire, the British were caught in sectarian fighting that spread from the slums to the south and west of their vulnerable position. But Mr Gemayel has learnt that the ministry statement was untrue, that in fact they were the victims of a deliberate and sustained attack by Shia Muslim militiamen. The first target the gunman hit was the British radio centre, cutting radio contact with London.

Mrs Thatcher is now deeply concerned about the lives of the soldiers sent to Lebanon. She should be. Officers in other contingents, particularly the Americans, believe it is only a matter of time before the British suffer serious casualties.

President Reagan's decision to commit the name of the multinational force to the Syrians just over a week ago - with scarcely any prior consultation with either the other contingents or with the Lebanese authorities - finally destroyed the neutrality of the international army in the eyes of many Lebanese Muslims.

But long before Mr Reagan announced his cooperation agreement with Israel or ordered the air raids, Mr Denis Healey was warning that the British "should join in one last effort to open America's eyes to the appalling dangers it is running and seek a settlement which is fair to the Muslim majority in Lebanon; and we should make clear, here and now, that if that fails, we are out - pronto".

It is because of Mr Healey's constant criticism that President Gemayel has specifically asked to see him tomorrow as well as the Prime Minister and Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader. He fears, as well he might, that if the British do find some reason to depart - a new ceasefire, for example, or some preposterously optimistic statement from Washington - that the multinational force will fall apart, taking his government with it.

President Gemayel will not expect to be asked if his country is worth the risk to British lives - whether, indeed, it is worth saving - for an extremely generous measure of incredulity is, now necessary in any serious discussion about Lebanon.

When Mrs Thatcher meets President Gemayel tomorrow, she will have to forget temporarily that he controls just five square miles of his country, a strip of his capital that would stretch only from Shoreham to the Palace of Westminster, and pretend that Lebanon is still a country. Mr Gemayel will be treated as an honoured guest, even though he came to power in the wreckage of Israel's policy in Lebanon, a policy that originally aimed to place his ruthless brother Bashir in power and which has helped to set up to half of President Gemayel's people against him.

Mr Gemayel himself is an eminently nice man. He is shy, unsure of his English, and tries to say what he means. He really does believe in the concept of a united

Lebanon free of foreign armies. But Mrs Thatcher is likely to treat his visit with considerable caution. For a start, Mr Gemayel's own domestic position needs to be carefully examined. When he sees Mrs Thatcher - and if he meets any journalists tomorrow - there are certain questions he will not wish to hear. Why, for example, has his government imposed an 8 pm curfew on the half-million people living in the western, largely Muslim, sector of Beirut while the Christian population of East Beirut can move around freely 24 hours a day?

Why does Mr Gemayel continue to employ Mr Zahi Boustani, a senior member of the Christian Phalange politburo, as head of the Lebanese Shiret Generale? Why is it that the Phalangist militias, in their own military trucks and carrying their own automatic rifles, are permitted to drive freely through East Beirut while equally illegal Muslim militias risk arrest or even death if they move around in West Beirut outside the area they still control at Bourj al-Barajneh?

In September, when Lebanon's third civil war started, Lebanese government troops and Phalangist militiamen sometimes positioned their guns only a few hundred yards from each other. Mr Gemayel was the Druze militia official until he assumed the presidency. Has this anything to do with the strange state of affairs in Beirut?

This is not to argue that Muslim militias should be permitted on the streets of Beirut or that the Lebanese army is intrinsically biased. The army has in fact held together remarkably well these past six months. But Mr Gemayel's government is supposed to control the army, and these are important questions when British lives are placed on the line to prop up the supposed impartiality of Mr Gemayel's administration.

The whole matter is thrown into

far darker relief, however, by Mr Reagan's actions. Having declared that his marines were neutral, he has now allied his country with Israel in a way he has never done before, thus forfeiting and probably some of their lives as well. In Washington, Mr Reagan's men talk of Syria as the stumbling block to peace in Lebanon, whereas many Lebanese, including some Phalangists, believe that Israel should be included.

Attacks on the marines - which may have been encouraged by the Syrians and might even have been arranged by them - provoked the president into a politically disastrous air raid on Syrian ground troops which prompted Damascus to strengthen its relationship with Moscow.

Mr Reagan's new alliance with Israel might make sense if the Israelis were showing some sort of military or political success in Lebanon. But their Lebanese adventure has proved almost worthless and they are now deep in another catastrophe south of the Awali River, having alienated many of the local Shia population and set up their own militia gangs on the roads, just as the Syrians have done in eastern Lebanon.

The Israeli defence minister speaks of Lebanon as "a nest of murderers", ignoring the fact that Israel, like Syria, has helped to arm many of these murderers, particularly those who carried out the Sabra and Chatila massacres last year.

Lebanon is heading towards far graver tragedies, and even Mr Gemayel probably knows that. Mrs Thatcher will have been told the same by her own advisers. It is a sign of the times that the multinational force, which entered Lebanon to ensure the departure of foreign armies, now finds itself more anxious to guarantee its own early evacuation than that of the Syrians or Israelis.

For horrific just read nasty

used to watch *The Day After* particularly qualified to comment upon it. I am one of those who has the habit of passing judgment, so as to know in advance such experiences I would rather not have. Nor am I alone. Shocking though it may seem to the enlightened, there are millions of people who, on no first-hand evidence whatsoever, have decided never to see a video nasty. Indeed, these ignorant and prejudiced people may even be in the majority; at least I hope that they are.

The Day After is, by report, a particularly disgusting video nasty, larded with the moralizing cant that one must expect from people who let their thoughts dwell upon the image of human suffering. That it should have been banned goes without saying. There is no more excuse for displaying a realistic picture of nuclear catastrophe than for displaying a realistic picture of a pregnant woman being cut up with a chain saw, or a live child being slowly disembowelled by hungry cannibals. Those who have no ability to imagine such things when required (and we must imagine the effects of nuclear war if we are to make wise political decisions about it), have no imagination. And nothing is more dangerous than to provoke mass hysteria in the literal-minded.

There is nothing human - not even death itself - that cannot be taken too seriously. And a person without imagination can take anything too seriously. His emotions, once deflected from the realities of daily existence, are out of his control, for imagination alone could permit him to control them. Where imagination is dead (imagine), fantasy triumphs. Fantasy consists in a morbid fascination with unrealities, which secretly trans-forms itself into a desire to make them real. Imagination is a form of intellectual control, which presents us with the image of unreason in order that we should understand and feel distanced from it. In fantasy imagination dominates; in fantasy we are dominated.

Anyone who wishes to know what pornography is - and *The Day After* is of course pornography - ought to study the distinction. When Dante takes his reader through the scenes of hell, what he describes is worse than any nuclear holocaust. He describes a world without hope, a world of ceaseless torment, unrelieved by unconsciousness or death, a world (and this is worst of all) denied the redeeming gift of love. But Dante does not invite us to fantasize, to dwell morbidly on these images with the lustful hung of the masochist. He invites us to imagine the torments of hell, id, in imagining, to distance ourselves from what we read. We must work to extract his meaning, and the imaginary object which we discover through his verses excites in us feelings which, however powerful, are only imaginary. We must have control of ourselves, and although we are moved, it is with calm and

collected emotion, whose main ingredient is compassionate understanding. What is most horrible in Dante's hell is not stated, but implied, and presented to us through a veil of artistic conventions which serve constantly to remind us that we look upon these scenes from a point of view outside them.

Even Goya, in his engravings of the horrors of war, subjects his images to a discipline that neutralizes the morbid passions of the merely curious. His powerful lines and contrasts, and his psychological intensity, transform everything that he pictures. A butchered body ceases to be a disgusting relic and becomes instead a symbol of man's hatred of himself. You cannot appreciate Goya's meaning without also stepping back from it. That is why you can live happily with these engravings hanging beside you on the wall.

Every critic, and every true artist, knows why, in the Greek tragedy, the actor wears a mask, and the horrible events take place off stage. These devices are designed to stimulate the imagination, by destroying fantasy, which is its greatest enemy and rival. Works of imagination say to us: this is not true, but it concerns you, so understand. Works of fantasy say: this is real, real, and you are in it, whether or not you understand. The video nasty employs no conventions comparable to those of the Greek stage. Its pornographic quality consists in its utter lack of imagination. It is a catalogue of scenes which prey upon our morbid emotions and acquire a horrible power over us. Those things which most overwhelm us in reality - sex and violence - are the natural subject of fantasy. People in the grip of sexual and violent fantasies are people who have lost control of the centre of their experience. Such people are dangerous to themselves, and dangerous to those around them. That is why pornography - which is the deliberate stimulation of fantasy - is evil, and why it should not be permitted.

It is hard, in a liberal democracy, to persuade people of truths which condemn the guilty pleasures of millions, and which imply that a government is failing in its duty by not exerting strong powers of censorship. But a liberal democracy will not last long when its subjects are prey to violent emotions which they can neither understand nor control. And even if it could last in these circumstances, it would not be worth it. The question raised by *The Day After* is the question of human happiness. What is the value of liberal democracy, if the cost of living in it is that we surrender our brief lives to morbid terror, we are not here for long, and there may be no other world to which we are proceeding. And because we are weak, would it not be better to be protected from those grim temptations which threaten the little happiness that we may have achieved?

Tark Goyder

Taking concern into the classroom

The scene is an ancient Cambridge college: the actors alien of about 30; the occasion a mion for the class of '71. Embodied by the munificence of the lege we seek out friendly faces to assess how their owners have fared.

Most of the m have not so much changed as sed. There are exceptions: up con a six-cylinder accountant who was to know what I earn. And I remember him sitting cross legged on a floor, a vaguely Buddhist philosopher.

While individual career choices yield surprises, however, the aggregate is all too predictable. Banking, Whitehall, accountancy, the Bar - that appears to be the "Tinker Tailor" for the bridge man of the early 1970s. It is a depressing list.

The more elated the profession in its standstill rewards, the further it is one from the problems of everyday life. We give the highest us to those jobs which make people the sophisticated, specied servants of a complex mme. The skill in masterminding the sale of company's shares valued far more than the skavolved in training and inspiring technical apprentices on wh abilities depend the company's re-performance.

Consider the problem that confronts a high-status professional: barrister in chambers offers expdvice to his clients, is guided by well-defined rules and precedent what he needs is a strong personaliat what he needs is an intimate wedge of his discipline and an ty to articulate it. The factory ager, wracked between irate cuters, adverse cash flow and a dralized workforce, needs all his book knowledge, of course; what he needs far more is the ty of leadership that will enable him to inspire new efforts from around him.

Sir-hael Edwardes is rightly admbecause he succeeded in moving all those around him to "turn and" British Leyland. But who would it be that those who want to take advantage of what universities and polytechnics offer show that they have done their bit in the community?

absurdity of the system will be the accountants who service it. The professions we value most are those which most disable their members from contributing to necessary change. At my Cambridge reunion I spoke to a civil servant who had a superb understanding of the Common Agricultural Policy. When I asked him how it might be reformed he answered that the other EEC countries would never allow us to reform it: clearly his masters had not insisted that he must find a way, and then set him to work.

Blinkered professionalism is the product of our distorted valuation of knowledge. From secondary school onwards, we treat knowledge as a commodity which is required to pass exams. And exam grades are used as commodities to advance individual careers. We fail to treat knowledge as a bank from which we borrow in order to return more rounded people or a better community.

There will always be top professions and we should not undervalue the skills they entail. We should at least ensure that tomorrow's professionals have been so educated that they never entirely forget the wider society they exist to serve.

A-level-hungry headmasters used to be wary of community service or Outward Bound schemes that took their pupils from their books to the Gorbals or the Cairngorms. But those pupils who participated learnt more about themselves and the world around them than they would from any classroom programme of social education.

University technologists whose courses have included opportunities to design aids for the handicapped discover the rich human rewards in the application of their skills. The civil servants of the future who have worked inside a prison will bring an extra dimension to the Home Office.

Why not insist upon service and experience-broadening modules with the same determination that we insist upon French and English? Why not insist that those who want to take advantage of what universities and polytechnics offer show that they have done their bit in the community?

Who knows how many of our brightest and best might be spared into different career choices by what they might see? Britain needs more of them in the front line.

Mark Goyder works in industry. He is also a trustee of Community Service Volunteers, the national young volunteers' agency.

هكذا من الأصل



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THE GULF JUGULAR

Yesterday's six explosions in Kuwait are horrifying enough in themselves, but the casualties they caused seem, in comparison to those of similar recent events in Lebanon, to have been almost mercifully light. In the circumstances the fact that they happened is less significant than the place where they happened. The primary message intended is clearly that, so long as the United States and France pursue their present policies in the Middle East, their representatives cannot expect to be safe anywhere in the area. The secondary message is that other Arab states beside Lebanon are vulnerable to terrorism and destabilization if they associate themselves with policies of which the perpetrators disapprove. A third message, if needed, might be that the West as a whole is vulnerable to events in the Persian Gulf. Indeed, its interests are much more directly and obviously at stake there than they are in Lebanon.

It is by now generally accepted that the suicide bombings in Lebanon - against the American embassy in Beirut last April, against the American and French contingents of the multinational force in October, and against the Israeli headquarters in Tyre on November 4 - are the work of Shiite extremists, inspired if not directly instigated by revolutionary Iran. A degree of Syrian complicity is widely assumed but not definitely proven.

The attack on the American embassy in Kuwait was a suicide bombing, the other five incidents yesterday apparently not. There is perhaps a crumb of encouragement to be found there in as much as it suggests the supply of candidates for martyrdom is not absolutely unlimited. But one is enough to establish a strong presumption of some connexion between these events and those in Lebanon. On the other hand, in Kuwait the presumption of Syrian involvement is less strong (though there is certainly no reason to rule it out), while the Iranian connexion is much more obvious.

Kuwait needs no reminder of its vulnerability. In 1961 it narrowly, with some British help, escaped being swallowed by

Iraq, which regarded it much as Spain does Gibraltar, China Hongkong, or Guatemala Belize. Later Iraq renounced its claim to Kuwait proper, but there is still a dispute about the island of Bubiyan. Kuwait's rulers retain a sense of existing on sufferance. They have maintained their independence by observing scrupulously correct relations with Iraq, while cultivating as wide as possible a circle of friends so as to be sure of very strong diplomatic support in the event of any renewed Iraqi threat. Alone of the Arab Gulf states (excluding Iraq itself), Kuwait has diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

The outbreak of war between Iraq and Iran three years ago put Kuwait in an invidious position, to say the least. Kuwait has a land frontier with Iraq but is separated by only twenty miles or so of water from Iran. Prudence and Arab solidarity alike dictated a pro-Iraqi stand, but Kuwait certainly had no interest in becoming a co-belligerent against Iran. Lest she were in danger of forgetting this, occasional Iranian air strikes have been carried out, "by mistake", against her territory. And in addition to this straightforward military threat there is the internal one posed by the presence in Kuwait of a substantial Shiite population, with a propensity to display pin-ups of Ayatollah Khomeini in its houses and shops.

No one could accuse the Kuwaiti authorities of being impervious to this danger. They have been on the watch for any hint that Shiite religious feeling is turning into disloyalty to the (Sunni) ruling family. Where such hints have been detected, they have been promptly and severely dealt with. Likewise illegal immigrants from Iran, arriving by boat under cover of darkness, have when caught, been promptly sent back. The existence of an underground, presumably Shiite, capable of mounting spectacular bomb attacks simultaneously in different parts of the city-state, must therefore have come as a severe shock. One response, that is clearly called for, is an overhaul of Kuwait's police and intelligence

services. Perhaps friendly powers with experience in dealing with terrorism - Britain in particular - could give some help.

Beyond this, the explosions in Kuwait remind us of the ever-present danger that the Iran-Iraq conflict may spread to the rest of the Gulf. There can be little doubt that the coupling of French with American targets has to do less with the role France is playing in Lebanon than with France's open partisanship on the side of Iraq, as well as her sponsorship of Iranian exile groups. Iran's most immediate fear, well publicised, is that Iraq will use French-supplied weapons to cut off Iran's oil exports through the Gulf (as Iran has long since done to Iraq's). Iran has threatened, should this happen, to see to it that no oil gets out of the Gulf from any source. This could be achieved, presumably, either by using Iranian airpower against oil installations in the Arab Gulf states or by blockading the Strait of Hormuz.

The present relative oil glut has made us a little blasé about such threats. Most industrial countries now have considerable reserve stocks of oil, and could no doubt weather a short interruption of Gulf supplies. But if the interruption were complete, and even assuming that non-Gulf producers increased their exports by four million barrels per day to make up part of the loss, it has been calculated there would be a shortfall of 4.8m barrels per day, equivalent to 11 or 12 per cent of present Free World demand - a much higher percentage than in the two previous oil crises of 1973 and 1979. Even if this had happened in 1982, when the oil market was much more acutely overstocked than it is now, it would have sent the price of crude oil to \$68 per barrel.

The threat posed by Iran is not to be taken lightly. The West has to be ready to meet it militarily if it comes to that. But the military scenario brings new and alarming risks with it. No diplomatic avenue for lowering tension in the area should be neglected. Things are not so bad, particularly in the Gulf, that they cannot still get a great deal worse.

GIFT HORSE ON THE ROCK

Consultations between HMG and the Gibraltar Government on measures needed to support and sustain the Rock's economy with a closed dockyard and a closed frontier were concluded at the end of July. They were based upon detailed studies carried out on the spot and in depth by independent consultants funded by Britain. Two broad options emerged: the yard could either be handed over to the Gibraltar Government who would install a commercial operator to manage it, or it could stay under Ministry of Defence management, undertaking commercial work to pay for its retention. Under either option the yard would be available to the Nato navies for emergency repair work. Mrs Thatcher decided on the former for sound political, military and commercial reasons: the Gibraltar Government had hoped for the latter because it was less risky and would be more acceptable to the local unions (the majority of the work force belong to the TGWU). Nevertheless, the Gibraltar Government accepted the conversion package offered by HMG because its terms were both generous and sensible, and it knew its preferred solution was unacceptable in Whitehall.

The package is generous in that it will cost the British taxpayer more than £50m (Chatham and Portsmouth got nothing); and it is sensible because an extra year has been allowed for the conversion of the yard, and a three year refit programme of Royal Fleet Auxiliaries is to be provided to help the work force familiarize themselves with commercial work. The £50m is made up of £28m for modification of the yard's facilities and to underwrite losses for the first two years; £14m for the RFA refit programme; and the rest will be spent on moving defence installations off two valuable sites in the city to help in the development of the Rock's

tourism industry. The money is, however, dependent upon the work force accepting commercial working practices without which the yard could not be successful in the fiercely competitive ship repair world.

However, the local unions, aided and abetted by the TGWU in London, are refusing to accept commercial management and working practices. There are undoubtedly risks in trying to break into the ship-repair market when work shipping is in the doldrums at the Gibraltar yard has a great deal going for it. It is compact and economic to operate; it lies at the intersection of the world's north-west and east-west shipping lanes and at the entrance to the Mediterranean; and its work force is highly skilled and more disciplined than its local competitors. Given good management, a work force determined to achieve a competitive edge and naval work to cushion the transitional period, the risks are not judged by experts to be unreasonable. Indeed, the thing could be fortuitously advantageous. Work on conversion of the yard should go a long way in mopping up the current unemployment among construction workers in Gibraltar; and it should be completed just as the yard's economy improves the ship-repair market.

Those who are advising the Gibraltar Trade Council to resist commercialization, and the members of that Council should ask themselves whether they are being responsible. Under Mrs Thatcher the decision to close the dockyard will certainly not be reversed (the Gibraltar Government has done surprisingly well in a year's reprieve); and the intention of Royal Naval management is equally unlikely (it would destroy any possibility of the yard becoming commercially viable in the longer term). Unfortunately, the Rock's

economy into other fields, like tourism, which have been closely studied, is impracticable as long as the frontier remains closed to tourists and vehicles. The hard fact is that there is no viable alternative. The five year conversion programme does reduce the risks of commercialization and provides opportunities for the Gibraltarians which would not have been nearly so generous if the frontier had been fully open. They would have been treated no differently from other British naval dockyard towns.

The Gibraltar dockyard package honours Britain's commitment to sustain and support the Rock's economy for as long as Spanish restrictions last. It is the Gibraltarians' right to accept or reject it, but it must be said that much of the support that Gibraltar has always enjoyed on both sides of the House and in the country could evaporate if the package founders upon union intransigence. The Trades Council are making a grave mistake if they are pinning their hopes upon the strategic importance of the yard to Britain and NATO: it is only a desirable and not a militarily vital asset to the West. Spanish and Portuguese yards would be delighted to see a potential competitor eliminated.

Sir Joshua Hassan's Government completes its four year term of office after Christmas. A general election is due between February and May 1984. The sooner the issue is put before the people of Gibraltar the better. The Rock is their home and it is up to them to decide between their Government's acceptance and the unions' rejection of the package. The British Government would, however, be wise to set a time limit on its offer. Some indication of the impatience will be evident today with the announcement of the first steps towards the dockyard's closure. The local unions, and the TGWU, cannot say they have not been warned.

Unacceptable face

From Dr E. Clifford-Jones
Sir, When I retired from my post as consultant in the NHS, I resolved not to write to papers, but I am now impelled to break this decision. I have been settled in this area for some three months after many years' residence in Devon. As a Disraelian Tory, I find it odd that this Government should have

placed the Newcastle Council in the position of deciding a rate rise of 40 per cent on rates already almost airborne, alternatively cutting services by the loss of 1,300 jobs. I have to tell you that the services here will run on a little evidence of waste, and the steps are taken to keep the public informed. Finally, as a stranger to the area, I

have discovered that the overall impression may be summed up with a word in little usage by this present Government: I mean, of course, compassion. Yours faithfully, E. CLIFFORD-JONES, 25 South Ridge, Brunton Park, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne. December 9.

NGA action boost to other media

From Mr Derek Nathan
Sir, I have been a devoted reader of *The Times* for many years and felt very deprived during the recent long period when it was not on sale.

Now, however, I have a television set equipped with CeeFax and also a video tape recorder (VTR), and somehow the prospect of prolonged access by the NGA does not worry me as much as it used to.

My situation is no doubt mirrored up and down the country, which boasts the highest ownership per head of VTRs in the world. It seems to me that the movement towards electronic information and opinion dissemination will be accelerated greatly should the NGA take national action. The electronic revolution is proceeding at a spanking pace without the additional boost that it would receive from this action.

I have been associated with the print trade for many years and politically I am left of centre. The NGA have my sympathy, but I think their strategy is disastrous.

Can the NGA leaders be so short sighted as to fail to realise that, whatever the merits of their case, a national strike at this point in the development of the media would knock the final support from under their precarious structure?

Yours faithfully, DEREK M. NATHAN, 7 Cromford Way, New Malden, Surrey. December 9.

Importance of Delhi

From Dr J. Elfenbein
Sir, General Zia ul-Haq, like Martin King, has long had a dream - to sit down to tea with the Queen and thereby greatly enhance his own personal prestige as well as that of the military government in Pakistan which he heads.

Someone should explain to Messrs Smith et al (December 5) that, far from accelerating a return to democracy there, the readmission of Pakistan to the Commonwealth now would have the effect of setting a sort of seal on its present government and would certainly strengthen it. That may indeed be desirable, but it has nothing to do with democracy.

Messrs Smith et al also conveniently forget that it was Bhutto's government, whatever its merits or demerits without doubt the most popular and democratic government Pakistan has ever had, which chose voluntarily to leave the Commonwealth in 1973.

As for a plebiscite in Kashmir, that is precisely the issue which resolved Mrs Gandhi in 1981 to let it be known that she would veto any Pakistani application for reaccession to the Commonwealth.

You cannot have it both ways and Mr Smith and his friends must really begin to do some homework. Yours faithfully, J. ELFENBEIN, Churchhill College, Cambridge. December 5.

MPs in the public eye

From Mr John Stokes, MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge (Conservative)

Sir, The article by Mr Austin Mitchell, MP, in today's *Times* (December 8) on television's treatment of the House of Commons ignores the feelings of many members in the House - quite possibly a majority if a vote was taken in a full House.

The entry of the camera into the Chamber would utterly ruin the atmosphere there. Instead of the cut and thrust of intimate debate members would be conscious that they were speaking to the nation at large.

Also, as television has to entertain, the cameras would be bound to select the most dramatic incidents, rather than the ordinary work of every day, and thus give a quite untrue picture of the whole. Members would be tempted to speak more often and at greater length to make sure that their constituents saw they were at work.

Idiosyncrasies of manner or dress, male or female, would not go unnoticed. The prime minister, among us would play even more to the gallery. I believe television in the Commons could turn out to be a nightmare.

It would be quite different with the Lords - the measured tones of their speeches which already come over so well in broadcasting would be enhanced by the splendour and dignity of the Chamber. Furthermore, they do not have any constituents to please.

Yours faithfully, JOHN STOKES, House of Commons. December 8.

Missile strategy

From Mr Christopher Meredith

Sir, Mr Brian Crozier's reply (December 1) to Mr David Watt's refreshingly realistic article, "The missile strategy that could misfire" (November 18) is mistaken or misleading in several important respects.

It is demonstrably untrue that Soviet SS20s "are capable of destroying all Nato targets in one single strike". With an accuracy estimated at 400 to 750 metres (depending on whether it is fired from fully prepared permanent sites or from makeshift sites to which it might be moved in an emergency) the SS20 is in no way a "first strike weapon" capable of destroying Nato missiles in their hardened silos, protected communication and command centres, or other key military targets. In this vital respect it is at least 10 years behind the new American missiles - with accuracies estimated to around 50 metres or better, cruise and Pershing 2 missiles do possess a first strike capability.

Airbus pointer to future profit

From the President of the Society of British Aerospace Companies Ltd

Sir, Must we catch the Airbus, asks Lord Bruce-Gardyne in *The Times* last Wednesday (December 7) and then go on to castigate the whole idea of so doing. The short answer to the question from those of us who want to see Britain's aerospace industry prosper is "Yes".

Britain and France can now challenge the US dominance in the western world. The industry's contribution to the country's balance of trade has been enormous - with exports in excess of £200m over the last decade (at 1980 prices).

The Prime Minister has said "the importance of the British aerospace industry to our economy cannot be overestimated". She is right. Aerospace is a high technology, high value added, and manpower intensive industry. It is through the exploitation of high technology that Britain's hopes for the future lie.

Developing countries all over the world are rapidly moving into low technology fields to compete with us in our traditional markets. Many countries which, until a few years ago, had no aerospace capability have begun to make rapid headway in this industry.

It is in the high technology sphere that Britain, France and the United States have established a marked superiority. Surely, Lord Bruce-Gardyne cannot be suggesting that Britain should relinquish the lead which we now share, just when we have the opportunity to build on success and to press our advantage.

The A320 project provides us with such an opportunity. It bears no comparison to Concorde either in technological difficulty or in expense. The launch costs are spread over a number of years.

Airbus Industrie has produced two fine airliners - the A300 and the smaller A310. These aircraft have established a worldwide reputation

for reliability and are popular with the travelling public. Together they have challenged the United States industry's monopoly as the supplier of large civil aircraft, a monopoly now increasingly concentrated on the Boeing Company, which cannot be to the advantage of the airlines or of the travelling public.

The A320, an aircraft in the 150-seat class and smaller than the A300 and A310, is a natural step to broaden the company's product base. Some 4,000 airliners will be needed between now and 1995; the market should be dominated by Boeing and Airbus. The latter needs to sell only some 400 A320 aircraft to break even - this is not an impossible target.

Now is therefore the time for strong leadership. Britain's stake in Europe's Airbus is important, not only to British Aerospace PLC, but also to Rolls-Royce and to many aerospace equipment companies in the UK whose future - and therefore their ability to employ people - is dependent on the programme.

Do we invest in aerospace and high technology for the future? Or are we really to abandon our high technological heritage and the ability it gives us to increase our national wealth? Must we become dependent on the service industries alone?

A320 is a challenge which industry is prepared to take and in which we are prepared to invest. We need some Government support to pay a dividend to the taxpayer. Surely we - Government and industry together - must face this challenge.

Yours faithfully, PETER BATES, President, The Society of British Aerospace Companies Ltd, 29 King Street, St James's, SW1. December 12.

Case for tax cuts

From Mrs Cynthia MacCoby

Sir, Tim Congdon argues ("Economic commentary", December 1) that as long as the Government takes 42 per cent of GDP, claims on resources necessary to produce this amount must be removed from the private sector. He believes that if this is not done openly and honestly by taxation it will be done covertly and dishonestly through inflation, since borrowing from the banking system by the Government leads to an increase in the money stock and hence, he alleges, inevitably to an increase in inflation.

This, by reducing the value of assets lent by the private sector to the Government, acts as a hidden tax. The only alternative, he asserts, is to drive up interest rates through sales of Government bonds, so "crowding out" private sector investment.

This may be true when the GDP represents the production possibility limit of resources, ie, when there is full employment and all resources are being used, so that Government claims have to be reduced if private sector claims are to be increased. But that GDP at present is at this level is an assumption made by Tim Congdon which he does not attempt to justify, despite the evidence of widespread unemployment of both human beings and machinery at the present time.

Going it alone

From Group Captain P. W. Johnson

Sir, Mr Michael Heseltine, in his interview about cruise (feature, December 2), averred that "the important thing is what you do in the event of nuclear blackmail". You have, he believes, to "deter at any level of threat".

Mr Enoch Powell (article, December 3) writes that Britain has not yet come to terms with the modern facts of geopolitics. He quotes our two mainstays, the American and the European, which prevent us from perceiving the world from our own standpoint and not from that of others.

If we put these two reasonable premises together, we should start looking at the world from a purely British standpoint and defending ourselves from the level of threat we saw. We should quickly discover that there is no perceivable threat to, or likelihood of nuclear blackmail of Britain as a separate entity, independent of the European and American commitments we now undertake.

Such a view would bring us naturally to consider an orientation of military non-alignment, outside the military confrontation of the two superpowers. Britain, no longer a great world power, but strongly defended in her own homeland, would then be reasonably safe from involvement in other people's quarrels.

This standpoint is a long way

indeed from that of CND about which you were commenting in your leading article of December 5. It seems tragic indeed, however, that the deciding argument you mount against an armed neutrality "as applied by Sweden and Finland" is the implication that British society either could or would not undertake the total commitment by every citizen to the nation's security which you rightly say would be involved.

I believe that the British, if offered this task, would accept it as willingly under modern conditions of "peace" as they have previously done in war. Yours faithfully, P. W. JOHNSON, Middle Corner Cottage, Hempton, Oxted, Surrey. December 6.

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Casting a cold eye

From Mrs Christine Percival

Sir, A propos Mr Levin's article of December 9, he should have had the nous to repair to a nearby pub, from where we were afforded an excellent view of the rest of the audience freezing to death on the pavement for over an hour.

Yours faithfully, CHRISTINE PERCIVAL, Mayfield, Crown Lane, Farnham Royal, Buckinghamshire. December 10.

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Archive service in uncertainty

From Mr H. Speak

Sir, I would like to add to the letter in your paper on December 6 expressing concern for the future of the Greater London Record Office, as yet undefined in the White Paper *Streamlining the Cities*.

In West Yorkshire the future of our archive service is less certain. In 1974 many people like myself, with a lifelong interest in local history and the preservation of local records, were pleased when the West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council established a county archive service with good conservation facilities to supplement existing services started by some of the former county boroughs.

In 1982, on the initiative of the county council, the West Yorkshire Archive Service was set up. This is a joint service administered by a committee representing the county council and the five district councils.

This service includes large collections of official records relating to the whole of the former West Riding, dating from the early seventeenth century. It also administers the fine collections of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society in Leeds, many of which are rich in medieval Yorkshire records.

Regular users of this service, like myself, would like to see this new joint service developed to deal with the large amount of rescue and other archive work waiting to be done in this county. The White Paper proposes that when the metropolitan county councils are abolished in 1986, archive powers will pass to the district councils, who are asked to cooperate to run archive services and see that historic collections are not broken up.

In our joint service in West Yorkshire we have the framework for this cooperation; but without the county council, which now pays for over half the cost of the service and for all development, the district councils may not be able to maintain or develop it. The creation of so many separate joint boards for other county services, such as police, each with the power to levy a separate rate, is going to increase the cost of these services.

If overall local authority spending is controlled by the Government, as is proposed, this can only mean that other statutory district services, such as education, will suffer. In this context minor services, such as archives, which are now used and valued by a growing number of people, will be very vulnerable. Yours faithfully, H. SPEAK, 483 Leeds Road, Outwood, Wakefield. West Yorkshire. December 9.

Calke Abbey

From Mr M. S. Pearce

Sir, It does seem very shortsighted of the Government to persist in declining the generous offer of Mr Henry Harpur-Crewe to give Calke Abbey, and the land which supports it, to the nation.

Twenty years ago Mr Lewis Wallace offered The Grange, Northampton, to the nation and it was declined. In 1975 it was taken into guardianship by the Department of the Environment after the contents had been dispersed and the interiors destroyed.

Restoration of the remaining empty shell has just been completed by the department at a cost of some £600,000. Do we never learn? Yours faithfully, MICHAEL PEARCE, Chairman, Association of Conservation Officers, c/o The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire. December 8.

Church and remarriage

From the Venerable Dr R. D. Daunton-Fear

Sir, May we ask why, in all the discussions about the remarriage of divorcees in the Church of England, has not greater consideration been given to granting decrees of nullity of marriage?

This would bring the Church of England in line with other ancient churches. It would also satisfy the conscience of many faithful clergy and laity. It would be more readily understood and allow for the Church's liturgy to be used.

It would not involve more elaborate ecclesiastical machinery than the present proposals. Yours faithfully, R. D. DAUNTON-PEAR, Norwood, 22 Penwinnick Road, St Austell, Cornwall. December 5.

A matter of title

From Dr Geoffrey Marshall

Sir, The Chairman of the Social Science Research Council says (December 9) that readers of *The Times* may like to know that he is going to concentrate on getting on with his job after changing the name of the Council. I expect that readers of *The Times* will be much relieved. But they may well wonder what was stopping him and his colleagues from concentrating on getting on with their jobs without changing the name of the council.

Since "Economic and Social Research Council" is an obvious solecism, and since there is no reason why the Social Science Research Council (or even the Privy Council) should dictate to social scientists what names or titles we use, let us simply ignore the council's faddish preferences and go on calling it the SSRC. There are more of us than them. Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY MARSHALL, The Queen's College, Oxford. December 9.

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

GEC brings down less from the mountain

Lord Weinstock and Sir Kenneth Bond, the presiding pillars of GEC, can control many things, but they include neither interest rates, nor the foreign exchange value of sterling, nor (entirely) the forecast of brokers' analysts. It is hard to understand why stock market soothsayers forecast, with almost deadly accuracy GEC's trading results for the six months to September 30 and yet failed to get anywhere near GEC's investment income for the same period.

This is doubly unfortunate: it proves, yet again, how far off beam even the most informed forecasts can turn out and as brokers' forecasts tend now to be the yardstick by which the market judges actual performance, share price movements, after the actual figures have been issued, may not be soundly based.

Not unreasonably, senior managers who have worked their insides out to produce good figures can feel bitter and twisted when mistaken City Cassandrae seem to have more influence in the market than the results themselves.

GEC's pretax profits for the first half-year are down from £291m to £285m. Though the interim dividend is raised from a penny to 1.15p a share, the shares immediately fell 19p, before closing 17p lower at 176p - a mere 2p above their year's low.

Profits from trading went up by £17m, a fair performance marked only by lower levels of deliveries of power-generation equipment (large steam and gas turbines) and of telecommunications equipment.

Deliveries of System X equipment to British Telecom should soon begin to make the running and, although the results will not be seen in the current year, GEC has picked up £50m worth of orders for power-generation equipment in the last few weeks.

The half-year figures are down simply because income earned on GEC's fabulous "cash mountain" is £23m lower than at September 30 last year. The mountain then yielded a return of 18 per cent.

This year so far, not only have interest rates fallen but the profit of converting dollar balances into sterling has shrunk. The return has been halved. By the end of GEC's 1982-83 financial year, the credit for currency conversion had grown to £32m.

The 1984 year-end figure will be nothing like that, but it should be better than the half-year figure might suggest.

Looking at the game at half-time, GEC is one-nil down and probably heading for a draw. As usual it is tight-lipped about what, if anything, it might do with all that cash (£1,477m at the last count), other than to continue to make the best return in the world's money and bond markets.

Eagle Star penny bazaar

The auction of Eagle Star is in danger of becoming a farce - a fate that no company of any status deserves. A mixture of pride and prejudice is threatening to take over.

The West German company Allianz Versicherungs, which has 30 per cent of Eagle Star and wanted to own 40 per cent, ought to recognize that it is not going to prevail over the rival bidder, BAT Industries.

By sensibly withdrawing it would earn points, a huge profit on its Eagle Star shares and stand a fair chance if it came back with an offer for another British company. Its merchant banking advisers, Morgan Grenfell, would no doubt be pleased to act as an intermediary if Allianz revived its interest in Cornhill, which now resides in the BTR camp.

That, however, is not a line that yet commands itself to the proud and determined Allianz chairman, Dr Wolfgang Schieren. The Allianz management board meets in Munich today to approve lifting its bid to 661p a share - just 1p more than the BAT offer. It will be doing this in order to comply with a Takeover Panel ruling yesterday that Allianz must meet a promise to top BAT's terms.

It is a technical move designed to put off the final decision making for as long as possible and does nothing for the German reputation for decisiveness. Both BAT and Allianz must make their final offer by

December 30 under City takeover rules. Both sides can play the same game, each jostling for position by raising their bids by 1p. That would be ludicrous.

BAT's merchant bank advisers, Lazard Brothers, intends to protest about Allianz's expected 661p a share bid in the strongest possible terms. It argues that the new bid will breach general principle No 5 of the Takeover Code, which says that any bidder must do its utmost to avoid creating a false market in the target company's shares.

There is growing pressure within the Allianz management board of the company to take its profit, with the "worker" members of the supervisory board (half its membership) wanting to see the money reinvested in Germany.

Moreover, Dr Schieren is said to be about to lose one of his most avid supporters - his finance manager, Dr Marcus Bieri. Dr Bieri has been a key, and constructive, figure in the sometimes bitter discussions between Allianz and Eagle over the past two years but he may be off to succeed Professor Hans Merkle, the grand old man of German industry, as head of the giant Bosch motor component group.

The Takeover Panel yesterday told Morgan Grenfell that it expected a full offer document by the end of the week.

Sensing that the action may end before the penny farce begins Eagle's share price yesterday dropped 15p to 697p.

Pound falls to record low as dollar's surge continues

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent, and Bailey Morris, Washington

Sterling fell further against the dollar yesterday as the United States currency forged ahead again in the foreign exchange markets.

The pound remained fairly firm against other currencies, which also suffered from the apparently insatiable demand for dollars. At one point, sterling hit \$1.4285 before recovering slightly, but finished the day at \$1.4310, a record closing low and down 45 points from Friday.

Its trade-weighted value was only 0.1 lower on the day at 82.5 as it closed a shade firmer against the French franc but slightly easier against the German mark and the yen.

Foreign exchange markets reacted early in the day to the bombing in Kuwait by pushing the dollar ahead. The continuing worries about the United States budget deficit, the rapid

recovery in the economy and the impact these could have on American interest rates also lent support to the dollar, which broke new ground against both the mark and French franc.

Intervention by the German central bank as the dollar tested DM 2.7550 helped to stem its surge during the morning, but it still closed in London over ½ pence higher at DM 2.7540.

One dealer said yesterday: "It's difficult to see anything happening between now and the end of December which will weaken the dollar."

Another added: "Whatever way you turn it's very difficult to sell the dollar."

Although central bankers appear concerned about the continuing strength of the dollar, there is no sign of concerted intervention on the foreign exchanges is planned to try to prevent it rising.

Meanwhile, a Republican from Kansas openly defied the Reagan Administration yesterday by holding a series of Congressional hearings designed to focus national attention on the soaring budget deficits he fears will destroy the US recovery.

The three days of special hearings before Mr Robert Dole's Finance Committee opened as analysts predicted the dollar would continue to surge, largely because of the huge budget deficits which are fueling high interest rates.

White House officials had urged Mr Dole to put off the hearings until next year when the Administration will unveil its 1985 budget, which reportedly projects a deficit even higher than has been expected.

Privately, some of Mr Reagan's closest advisors have admitted that they now regard

the rising deficit of \$200 billion and more as Mr Reagan's economic Achilles' heel. The White House strategy has been to blame the deficits on free-spending Democrats in Congress.

But the strategy has begun to backfire as the national debate over the deficit grows more intense and powerful Republicans like Mr Dole insist on forcing the Administration to share the blame.

Mr Dole had urged the President to put aside party differences and approve a programme of modest tax increases and additional spending cuts before Congress recessed on 18 November for the year.

But Mr Reagan remained firm in his opposition to tax increases and restated his belief that the deficit problem will be cured by a stronger-than-expected recovery.

US fears hit index

The equity market's record-breaking run showed signs of running out of steam yesterday as the long three-week Christmas account got under way.

Opening on a firm note the FT Index continued to scale new heights, rising 3.4, at one stage, before closing 3.4 down at 753.7. Fears of higher US interest rates and a disappointing start to trading on Wall Street affected sentiment with the latest bumper set of retail sales making little impression.

Dealers fear that now the festivities are under way turnover will continue to decline and prices will now be left to drift.

Market report, page 16

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 753.7 down 3.4
FT 100: 82.51 down 0.26
FT All Share: 463.85 down 1.48

Bargains: 21.030
Dax: 21.030
Dax: 21.030

New York: Dow Jones
Average: (latest) 1258.33
down 1.73

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
Index 9,442.38 down 6.52
Hongkong: Hang Seng
Index 856.74 down 1.65

Amsterdam: 155.0 down 0.1
Sydney: AO Index 743.8 up 8.0

Frankfurt: Commerzbank
Index 1016.3 up 2.0
Brussels: General Index
131.65 up 0.71

Paris: CAC Index 151.5 up 0.9
Zurich: SKA General 306.80
up 0.30

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4310 down 45pts
Index 82.5 up 0.1

DM 3.9425 up 0.0050
FF 12.0050 up 0.0125
Yen 338.75 down 0.75

Dollar Index 130.4 up 0.2
DM 2.7540 up 0.0063
New York: Latest
Sterling \$1.4285

Dollar DM 2.7525
ECU 0.673129
SDR 0.725922

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rate 9%
Finance houses base rate 9%
Discount market loans week
fixed 9

3 month interbank 9/2-9/8
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10 1/4-10 1/8
3 month DM 6 1/4-6 1/8
3 month FR 12 1/4-12 1/8

US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9/2
Treasury long bond 100%
100%

EGG Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period November 2 to
December 6 1983 inclusive:
9.350 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$390.80 pm \$391.25
close \$391.25-392 (\$273.50-274)

New York (close): \$391.25
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$403.50-405 (\$282.25-283.25)

Sovereigns (new):
\$91.50-92.50 (\$64.64-65)
*Excludes VAT

Grim forecast on UK oil income

By Jonathan Davis
Financial Correspondent

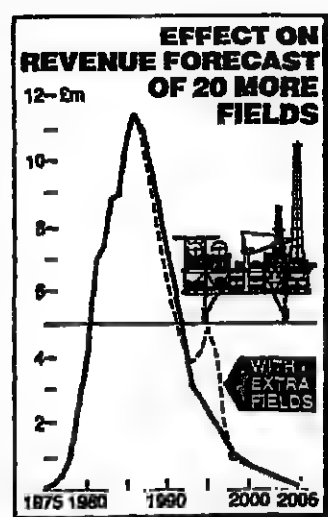
A savage decline in the Government's North Sea oil revenues in the 1990s looks inevitable, according to a crucial report on oil taxation policy published yesterday by the independent Institute of Fiscal Studies.

If oil prices rise in line with inflation for the rest of this century, the Government's income from all commercial fields in the North Sea will decline from a peak of £11,000m in 1987 to less than £1,000m in the year 2000, the institute calculates.

This £10,000m with the £3,000m to £9,000m that the Government will receive this financial year, and it reflects the sharp fall in output from the prolific early discoveries in the North Sea which had always been expected from 1990 onwards.

The institute adds that even big rises in oil prices or a sudden spate of new field developments are unlikely to have much effect on the steady revenue decline.

The study estimates that oil prices would have to rise in real



terms by 6 per cent a year - or by 51 per cent over the next seven years - if revenues were to be maintained above £10,000m a year until 1990.

To keep revenues at this level until 1994 would require prices to increase annually at more than 9 per cent above the rate of inflation. So they would have to double in real terms over the next 11 years.

Such increases would give a

powerful boost to the development of new fields but they are extremely unlikely and would, in any case, cause such damage to the economy that they would outweigh the Government's need for revenues, according to authors, Mr Mike Devereux and Mr Nick Morris, research officers at the institute.

Because future fields will be much smaller and more economically marginal than the original discoveries, even the development of 20 new fields would have only a marginal impact on Government revenues this century.

The institute supports this gloomy prognosis with some criticisms of the way in which oil taxation has developed in this country. It says that the system has hit small marginal fields much harder than the more profitable developments.

The report proposes that the present system should be replaced by a simple system based on profitability and cash flow, rather than revenues.

North Sea Oil Taxation, by M. P. Devereux and C. N. Morris, Institute of Fiscal Studies, Woodhead Faulkner (Publishers) Ltd, Cambridge. Price £6.

RMC puts £20m into expansion

By Jeremy Warner

RMC Group, Britain's biggest ready-mixed concrete concern, is spending about £20m on acquisitions in France, the US and Britain.

The takeovers will provide a source of raw materials for the group's businesses in Britain and France and extend its American interests.

The stock market approved - and marked the shares up 8p to 397p yesterday despite the placing of 3.94 million shares to help pay for the purchases.

RMC is paying DM50m (£12.85m) to Rheinisch-Westfälische Kalkwerke of West Germany for a 65 per cent interest in its aggregates offshoot in France.

RMC already has 49 per cent of the West German parent which has been rationalizing its interest through sale and closure to concentrate on its original limestone extraction business.

The French company lost money last year and most of this year. But it is expected to make a net profit next year.

RMC is also paying \$9.7m (£6.7m) for a 75 per cent interest in Metromont Materials Corporation in South Carolina.

Metromont, which is profitable, operates 12 ready-mixed concrete plants, seven concrete block plants and one concrete pipe plant.

Meanwhile, in Britain the group is paying £1.84m for farm land adjacent to its existing quarry at Hatfield in Hertfordshire.

Planning permission has been granted to develop the land for its sand and gravel deposits. RMC appears to have secured its new reserves at Hatfield cheaply compared with the price that Tarmac has been paying.

Lloyds buys part of rescued bank

By Our Banking Correspondent

Lloyds Bank is expanding in Germany by buying part of Schroeder, Munchmeyer, Hengst and Co. (SMH), the private German bank which was rescued last month, for an undisclosed sum.

Lloyds is buying about DM1.4 billion (£335m) of assets under the deal, comprising parts of SMH's commercial banking business and all its investment banking activities.

Excluded from the deal are any of SMH's loans to IBH, the huge building machinery group or Wibu, a machinery company in which IBH has a stake.

It was these loans, estimated at about DM900m, which precipitated the rescue of SMH by a group of West German banks at the beginning of last month.

The West German banks are believed to have extended about

Amex faces profit fall of \$50m

By Philip Robinson

Net profits of American Express will fall by about \$50m (£35m) to \$531m this year, making it the first profits drop for a decade. It follows a \$230m injection of cash into its property liability insurance arm, Fireman's Fund.

A shake-up of top management at the Fireman's Fund was also announced last night.

American Express is one of the world's largest travel and financial services groups. It takes in international banking services, insurance, investment advice and the famous charge card used by 15 million holders.

Increased and higher claims mean that its Fireman's Fund subsidiary will make a loss in the final quarter of the year, although it will be profitable for the year as a whole.

In New York, American Express share price hit a low for the year of \$28 1/4 per share. The price has come down this year from almost \$50 a share.

The problems have been caused by additional reserves being needed for meeting claims on workers' compensation and property liability.

Last October American Express reported a less than 11 per cent increase in third-quarter earnings as a result of a 25 per cent drop in the earnings of its insurance subsidiary.

Earlier this month it announced 10 per cent job cuts among 13,000 workers at Fireman's Fund. The group said 300 jobs in the property liability operations were being cut immediately and a further 1,200 jobs would go next year.

In the third-quarter Fireman's Fund earnings fell to \$46m.

As a result, net income for American Express are expected to fall sharply from \$581m.

Last month, American Express was poised to make one of the world's largest corporate takeovers, offering its stock in a \$1 billion deal for the Allegheny Corporation. It was called off just a month after the first announcement.

In London, Amex has just paid £28m for Peninsular House in Monument Street.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Investment fund for Lancashire

Mr David Trippier, the minister for small businesses, has given his backing to a new community-based investment fund which will invest £500,000 in local firms in North-East Lancashire.

The Valleys of Enterprise Trust Fund, which is part of the Business Expansion Scheme, will be run by local businessmen who draw no salary for their work. Investors will pay no management charges although there will be a half-yearly administrative charge.

Charterhouse Group and Electra Risk Capital have linked up with a publicly-quoted company, Pineapple Dance Studios, for its first venture under the Business Expansion Scheme. Pineapple has formed a subsidiary, Pineapple Kensington, in which Charterhouse will take a 40 per cent stake and Electra a 35 per cent stake. Charterhouse has paid £251,000 for its stake and Electra £220,000. The remaining 25 per cent will be held by Pineapple.

The Department of Trade has presented petitions for the compulsory winding up of Cavalier Insurance and Universal Guarantee Insurance Agency, after discovering that the two companies were not authorized to offer extended guarantees to policyholders.

Xerox Corp. has agreed to acquire the privately-held investment banking firm Van Kampen Merritt for \$150m (£105m) in cash, term and convertible notes, plus a contingent payment of up to \$68m based on earnings for the next three years.

Mr John Elliott, an Australian entrepreneur, yesterday raised a toast in Foster's lager after his company gained control of the brewers of Australia's most famous beer in the country's largest takeover deal. Mr Elliott, managing director of Elders IXL, said his company now held more than 50 per cent of Carlton and United Breweries after spending more than \$448m.

Property groups back in £300m merger talks

By Jonathan Clare

The £300m merger of Slough Estates, Allnatt London Properties and Guildhall Property is back on after a surprise announcement yesterday that the three companies were talking again. An official announcement of the terms of the deal is expected today.

Talks between the three property companies were called off just over two weeks ago. Allnatt and Guildhall, which are run by the same principal shareholders and directors, are believed to have decided to reapproach Slough and accept its terms for the merger rather than stick to the higher price they had originally demanded.

Both Allnatt and Guildhall asked for their shares to be suspended, but Slough did not, which strengthened the belief that the other two had reapproached Slough. However, Slough was adamant yesterday that the deal would be a merger and not a takeover.

A straightforward merger would be advantageous to Slough because it would reduce the discount to net assets at

which its shares trade. But any issue of Slough shares to acquire the earnings per share through this is likely to be insubstantial on the terms Slough wants.

The belief among City circles that the merger will be on Slough's terms was reflected in the share price which ended the day down only 3p at 119p.

The two main directors of Allnatt and Guildhall, Mr Leslie Smith and Mr Ronald Diggins, are said to be anxious to stand down. Mr Diggins is also on the Slough board.

A successful merger would create a property company with a portfolio worth about £700m and a market value of almost £300m. Slough's portfolio alone is worth about £500m.

Mr Godfrey Messervy, chairman of Lucas Industries, told yesterday's annual meeting that the company must continue to shed labour this year if it is to remain competitive. In 1982 the group reduced its British workforce by nearly 4,000 to 45,500.

Minister seeks further \$100m towards \$6.5 billion new money target

Brazil appeals for Middle East loan

By John Lawless

Brazil's Planning Minister, Senator Antonio Delfim Netto, is on a tour of the Middle East, urging bankers to join the \$6.5 billion (£4.3m) new money loan to his country.

He left Bahrain yesterday after a visit to the United Arab Emirates, and was thought to be heading for Jeddah. After Saudi Arabia, where he is due to meet senior ministers and central bank officials, he is likely to visit Kuwait.

The Middle East is the only region, outside Latin America, that is still showing substantial resistance to new lending.

A New York banker who is coordinating the loan arrangements said yesterday: "We are looking for another \$100m from there, having so far managed to



Antonio Delfim Netto: Plea to bankers

secure promises of only about \$70m.

"Every dollar is important at this stage, given that many of the commitments from elsewhere in the world are contin-

gent upon the full \$6.5 billion being in place, from 100 per cent of the banks."

The new money total yesterday stood at \$6.22 billion, from 420 banks. Although coordinate banks were still claiming that they have yet to hear from about 200 small banks, others began to question whether this figure might be a scare tactic.

One London banker said: "There are many subsidiaries included in that figure, perhaps five belonging to one bank. That has inflated the total still outstanding."

He added: "The major non-US banks are adamant that they will not raise bridging finance by the end of the year if the full amount is not there."

Brazil, under those circumstances, would only be able to keep the existing commitments

in place - and allow the rescue deal to continue into next year - if it guaranteed to make what arrears payment is can in "an even-handed" way. In other words, American banks must not be favoured with payments.

If Brazil could not do that, either old loans would temporarily have to be put on a non-performing basis, or the US banks would have to raise bridging finance on their own.

"The big banks feel very strongly about this," he said, pointing out that several of those still to commit themselves are regional US banks.

There can be no under-estimating, therefore, how important Senator Delfim Netto's Middle East tour has become. Apart from the two large banks, Sul International and the Arab Bank International, there are still plenty of smaller banks there holding back.

Whitecroft

We acquired the London-based builders merchants group, M. Wispart Ltd in October 1983. This acquisition will be of considerable benefit to the building supplies division, providing better access to the more buoyant markets in the south-east of the country, and is expected to make profits of at least £700,000 per annum.

The lighting companies made further progress, with a significant profit contribution from Simplex Lighting Ltd which was acquired a year ago.

In property development, we expect to benefit shortly from the first major transactions in our commercial development programme.

The Whitecroft group is more firmly based to generate growth than for many years and this will be reflected in the outcome for the year as a whole.

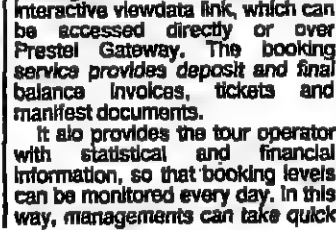
Interim results	Half year ended 30 September 1983	Half year ended 30 September 1982	Year ended 31 March 1983
Turnover	£43,700+ 9%	£40,018	£84,304
Profit before taxation	£2,744+13%	£2,425	£5,304
Earnings per share	10.3p+25%	8.2p	18.5p
Dividends per share	2.0p+21%	1.65p	5.4p

Whitecroft plc

Textiles, building supplies, lighting, property development

A copy of the interim report may be obtained from: The Secretary
Whitecroft plc, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5BX

Women lagging behind the men



Peter Morley is a well-known maker of award-winning documentary programmes, and was given the OBE for services to broadcasting. The discs contain programmes from his splendid "Start Here: Adventures into

paratively modest, a reference section provides the equivalent of a random-access animated visual encyclopaedia. However, using the optional computer interface (£95) it should be possible to control the disc through the Ceptronics interface using any suitable microcomputer and simple BASIC

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He has a computer studies "O" level, and hopes to study electrical or computer Engineering when he leaves school. His computer teacher, Mrs C Wood, uses RML 3802s in the computer room where two are linked into a network of sixteen terminals. There are 120 pupils taking the computer studies course at "O" or CSE levels. The computers are also used for remedial English lessons, and there are plans to add word processing to the commerce department.

JOB SCENE

The discrepancies between the levels of pay for the amount of managerial content to the job undermines an important conventional wisdom in the industry.

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 Detroit Ltd 0905 425195, 428505 **Worthing**
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The initial appointment, probably on a full-time basis, would be for a period of one year. The salary would be \$10,000 per year, plus benefits. The position would be a full-time position, and the candidate would be expected to work on the project full-time. The position would be a full-time position, and the candidate would be expected to work on the project full-time.

possible adjustment to scale 1A (£7,190 - £11,618) will be for 1 year but funds are available for a further 4 years. London allowance £1,180 is also payable. Application form available from Establishment Office at Queen's Hospital Medical School Cranmer Terrace, London, SW17 0RE.

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Instant research from computerized Hansard

Short cuts at the Commons

News that the text of the House of Commons Hansard is now stored on computer (*The Times*, December 8) will be very welcome to those who daily pore through Hansard looking for items relating to particular topics of interest.

Instead of hours of tedious painstaking research, the computer can do the searching for them in a matter of seconds at the press of a few keys on the terminal keyboard.

The new service is being offered by Scicon, the computer services company owned by EEP as part of the external Polls (Parliamentary On-Line Information System) service Scicon runs on behalf of the House of Commons services committee.

Polls is a computerized information-retrieval system which provides users with index details on any subject covered in parliamentary papers, including Hansard, on-line.

The system was developed by Scicon for the Commons' Library to enable the library to provide a rapid service for helping MPs find information among the plethora of publications produced as a result of parliamentary business. It was described in *Computer Horizons* on February 8.

The new service enables terminal users to key in Polls search words relating to the topics they are interested in, obtain a list of index references where the topics are mentioned in the Hansard text, and then display the appropriate text for each reference.

The text stored in the database is as up to date as the publication of Hansard itself.

COMPUTER WEEK

Frank Brown

there being a day's delay between a given session and the Hansard report on that session being entered into the computer.

Coverage is confined to proceedings in the Chamber of the House of Commons, because at present these are the only proceedings at Westminster which are produced in computer-readable form. The Hansard text stored covers the present session of Parliament, ie, from June 22 this year.

Analysis of Polls enquiries has shown that the majority relate to the proceedings over the previous 12 months. Scicon therefore plans to extend the coverage of the new service back to the start of the last session of the last Parliament, ie, November, 1982.

There are no plans to go back further than this at present, because the demand for such information is likely to be small.

Indeed, with the high cost of storing one session's proceedings (about 150 million characters of information) the company originally planned to restrict coverage to the current and previous sessions, and to discard Hansard reports more than twelve months old at the beginning of each new session.

The cost of storing data is falling, however, and with the possibility of low-cost methods of high volume data storage

becoming commercially available next year, the company is likely to retain stored Hansard information indefinitely.

The new service is unlikely to reduce the number of subscriptions to Hansard, because subscribers will still want to have copies in their libraries.

The service is mainly aimed at people who do not have ready

access to copies of Hansard,

according to Michael Bunbury, manager of Scicon's information systems. "It saves them the time and effort of going to the nearest library and looking through them for items of information on a particular subject."

It also enables them to be aware of events in Parliament of interest to them much earlier than they would do otherwise. Many organizations circulate a single copy through one or more departments. Thus, some readers may not see a particular issue until some days or weeks

after it is published. Another reason why the service is unlikely to affect subscriptions to Hansard is the cost of using the service, which is geared to periodic referencing, rather than large-scale text extraction.

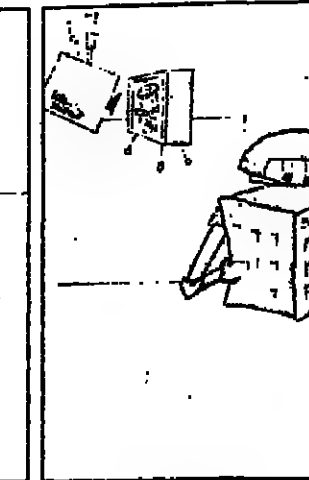
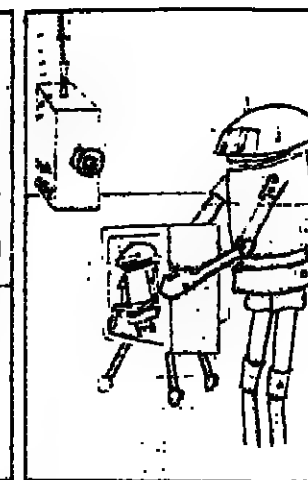
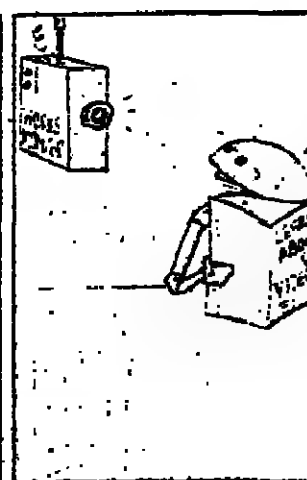
An annual subscription for Hansard daily by post costs £260. To access the Scicon's Hansard service involves becoming a Polls subscriber, which means an investment of up to £3,500 or more in terminal equipment if you do not have the equipment already, and paying a Polls access charge of £55 an hour (92p a minute) plus 20p per Hansard column accessed.

There is also the cost of the call to Scicon's computer in Milton Keynes. Access can be via telephone line, which can be at local call rates from London and Manchester as well as Milton Keynes, or via any British Telecom PSS data communications node, of which there are about 20 throughout the country.

Reaction of existing Polls users to the new service has been generally enthusiastic. More than a third have contracted to take it. Currently there are more than 80 users of Polls including overseas, as well as UK, organizations. Among them are government departments, local authorities, public corporations, universities, and public relations consultants who look after client's parliamentary interests.

Overseas users include the EEC, the European parliament, and government organizations in Australia and New Zealand.

AGOS



FO planning for electronic mail

By Maggie McLeone

If the Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency gives the go-ahead, the Foreign Office intends to install about 1,500 microcomputers in its UK departments over the next three years, and up to 200 larger systems overseas.

Most of the London-based machines (1,400) will form an internal electronic mail service, with the remaining 100 used to run a personal application for the combined FCO and ODA staff of 9,000. Overseas, the FCO plans to supply consulates with administrative and commercial systems, and has already started the operation in the US and West Germany.

Provisionally estimated to cost between £5-10 million, the FOLIOS (Foreign Office London Integrated Office System) electronic office network is the largest undertaking. It is envisaged as a distributed system

with information "nodes" based on micros with hard disk storage in 80 departments linked by an electronic mail service run on a central processor.

Individual workstations would have word processing, electronic filing, and computerized diaries and telephone directories, plus the ability to send messages anywhere in the network.

The FCO has to deal with large quantities of text, much of which arrives in teletype form, and all of it has to be handled quickly. Although external communications are advanced, the internal system is extremely slow, with documents taking up to three weeks to complete circulation, and FOLIOS is intended to speed up the flow and cut down the costs involved.

The FCO Communications

Division has a project for message handling and this will eventually be linked up to the FOLIOS, explained Mr Adrian Thorpe, head of Information Technology. "We aim to recoup the cost of the system over 10 years from savings on material costs, such as the production of about 10 million photocopies a year and the subsequent shredding of classified documents."

Although the FCO originally considered this type of system as early as 1969, no suitable computer equipment was then available, so the idea was shelved until 1981, when Pactal was commissioned to carry out a strategic study. Pactal reported the results in 1982 and the FCO is now following the recommendations made, working with software house Logica to produce a full study for submission to the CCTA in

January. Procurement is then likely to take place by the end of 1984, with systems being installed during 1985/6.

Mr Thorpe is working closely with the Civil Service unions, and says that so far they have shown a "positive attitude and great enthusiasm". The FCO has set up a dummy system to help clarify requirements expressed by three steering committees representing a wide cross-section of potential users, and a further 700 or so staff have visited the simulated electronic office voluntarily to give their comments.

A similar approach has been taken to the Staff Records System (known as STARS), and the Overseas Programme. The FCO personnel department is experimenting with ICL's Personnel 20 package, running on DRS 20s, as a pilot exercise.

All the fun of the micro stocking, maths included

With only another eleven shopping days to go, here are a few more suggestions for the micro-stocking, writes Geoffrey Ellis.

Two new Learn Basic packages for users of the Spectrum and Dragon contain a step-by-step book, supported by two cassettes with exercises and programs illustrating the points made in the book. From Logic 3, at £12.95.

Another name new to the games market is Mogul, division of the video company. It has launched 13 games for all of the popular home machines. They range from arcade games such as Creator's Revenge for the Commodore 64, Super Trek for the Oric, 64 and Vic20, to a classic adventure pack taking more than six hours to solve.

There is a new database available for the Spectrum: Data Genie, comes from Audiogenic and it uses the "pop up" menu style of the more expensive Magpie system. This one sells at a modest £9.95.

Another goodie from Audiogenic is a graphics tablet for the Commodore 64. This consists of a tablet and stylus, disk-based

software and instruction manual. It enables the user to create high quality illustrations with commands like brush option, colour palette, and the built-in selection of pre-formed shapes. This comes at around £90.

New home user book titles include the Penguin Computing Book, a substantial paperback of 450 pages by Susan Curran and Ray Curnow, which starts with an historical look at the subject, goes on through various aspects of the technology, deals with the different languages, and ends with various applications. It sells at £5.95.

Other titles more useful in an instant way are those which carry listings and routines. Representative of these are Winning Games on the Vic 20, a selection of all the old faithfuls, distributed by John Wiley at £5.95.

If you feel that there should be more to micros than game playing, then *Maths+Computers=Fun*, by Geoffrey Childs at £6.25, should solve your dilemma. It is full of listings to help brighten up learning at a number of levels.

UK events

Your Computer Christmas Fair, Wembley Conference Centre, December 15-18. Which Computer? Show, NEC, Birmingham, January 17-20. Northern Home Entertainment Show, Excelsior Hotel, Manchester Airport, January 18-22. Acorn Education Exhibition and Conference, Barbican Centre, London 25-27. Statindex 84, Earls Court, London, January 28th - 1st January. Peripherals Suppliers, Cunard

International, January 31-Feb 2. Communications & Computer Systems Fair - CABLES, Pontin's, Prestatyn, Wales, February 2-4. LET 84, Heathrow Penta Hotel, February 13-15. International Home Computers, Heathrow Penta Hotel, February 13-15. Information Technology & Office Automation Exhibition and Conference, Barbican Centre, London ECI February 21-24. CEM Only Conference, Hilton Hotel, London W1, March 7. Compiled by Personal Computer News.

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Cambridge University elections and awards

The following elections and awards have been made at Cambridge University:

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Handcrafted by the Sixteen Men of Tain.

Whitehall. But what innovations did Professor Ashworth have in mind?

● Britain needs professional ministers able to run their departments.

the death of the CPAS. And does he rate the chance of a resurrection? "I am almost certain that a future Prime Minister will have something or other which is recognizably similar."

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Queen's Bench Division

Law Report December 13 1983

House of Lords

Health authority went about hospital closure unlawfully

Regina v Hillingdon Health Authority, Ex parte Goodwin and Others
Before Mr Justice Woolf
[Judgment delivered December 12]

An area health authority which had failed to consider arrangements made with its medical committee and how those arrangements could be terminated acted unlawfully in its decision to close one of its out-patient hospitals, albeit on a temporary basis, without consulting that committee.

However, the actual taking of the decision was not unlawful, and it was neither *ultra vires* to seek to close the hospital before the expiry of the period of notice required to be given to each member of the committee nor for the district administrator to seek to terminate all the contracts of those members.

Mr Justice Woolf held in the Queen's Bench Division in allowing an application for judicial review of the decision of the Hillingdon Health Authority taken on September 27, 1983 temporarily to close the hospital.

Mr Stephen Sedley, QC and Mr Robin Allen for the applicants; Mr Adrian Whitfield, QC and Mr Michael Lence for the respondent health authority.

Mr JUSTICE WOOLF, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said

that the hospital was still part of the life of the community and received money raised by persons interested in the hospital. The authority had not yet closed the hospital pending the decision of the court.

It was, as a cottage hospital, run by a committee of general practitioners that had a well-established role in relation to the hospital. The authority had a statutory duty to maintain a relationship with that committee under paragraph 4 of Schedule 6 of the National Health Service Act 1977, and a contract existed terminable by three months' notice between the general practitioners and the authority.

The resources of the health service were governed by section 97 of the 1977 Act as amended by section 6 of the Health Service Act 1980 which placed upon the authority the clear duty to balance its budget to ensure that its expenditure did not exceed its statutory income as defined in the statute. The authority's decision to close was taken without prior consultation so as to contain expenditure within the giving of the three months' notice.

His Lordship adopted the approach of Mr Justice Cooke in a case from New Zealand, *CREEDNZ Inc v Governor General* [1981] 1 NZLR 172, and concluded that the contract between the authority and the authority was a matter the authority was entitled to take into account the whole process of consultation was given great

importance by the legislation. The relationship was so fundamental that it was quite wrong for the authority not to have regard for it in relation to the question of temporary closure.

His Lordship rejected the contention that the decision taken on September 27 for temporary closure was prejudging the matter and meant in effect permanent closure. The decision was for temporary closure with permanent closure to follow after the full consultative process had been gone through.

Where the statutory responsibility of the authority to meet its financial restraints was involved, then the existence of the contracts between the doctors and the authority placed upon the authority the requirement to consider those contracts but it did not prevent the authority from reaching its decision on temporary closure when it considered that it was its public duty, and since it was the policy of the hospital authority to close the hospital permanently, was appropriate for the authority to terminate the appointment of the doctors.

His Lordship concluded that the decision of September 27 had to be quashed so that the matter could be considered by the authority in a short time in a proper manner. That did not affect the fact that the authority could take any terminating the appointment of the doctors.

Solicitors: Mr T. J. Rose, Hayes; J. Tickle & Co.

Dismissing wife's claim for payments

Cook v Cook
Before Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce and Lord Justice Fox
[Judgment delivered December 12]

A court had jurisdiction to dismiss a wife's claim to periodical payments without her consent where she had consented to forgo such claim in an earlier deed of separation subject to the approval of the court and the court was not bound to refuse to approve it.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by Mrs Lydia Cook against Judge Stockdale's order in chambers on June 2 dismissing her claim to periodical payments for herself.

Mr Simon Buckhagen for the wife; Mr Nicholas Mostyn for the husband.

LORD JUSTICE CUMMING-BRUCE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the wife had submitted that the relevant consent to dismissal of her claim for periodical payments was a consent given to the court at the date of the hearing.

In *Dipper v Dipper* [1981] Fam 311, it had been held that the court could not dismiss a claim by a wife for periodical payments for her own maintenance unless she had consented. However, there was nothing in the judgments to cast doubt on the proposition that a valid agreement, made subject to the approval of the court, could not be an effective consent for the purpose of conferring upon the court jurisdiction to dismiss a claim for periodical payments simply because a party subsequently at the hearing sought to rely on the obligations agreed in the deed.

On the contrary, the whole tenor of the speeches of the House of Lords in *Alford v Alford* [1979] AC 591 had been that such an agreement should be upheld as a valid consent to dismissal of financial and property claim if it was intended to have that effect.

Solicitors: Messrs Jones & Sons, Edinburgh; Martin Potter & Co.

Ownership of bunkers after arrest of ship

Stellar Chartering and Brokerage Inc v Elibank-Ente Finanziario Interbancario SpA
Before Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Templeman
[Speeches delivered December 8]

In deciding the ownership of unbroached bunkers of fuel on board a vessel which was arrested while on time charter in respect of an Admiralty action *in rem* for the recovery of money owed by the shipowner to the charterers, the House of Lords held that the common law of bailment applied.

Accordingly, so long as the contract contained in the charterparty continued, the shipowner had the right to the bunkers, whether they were the property of the charterers or the property of the shipowner. The property of the bunkers depended upon the true construction of the charterparty.

It was not contended by either party that anything had happened after the date of cancellation of the charterparty and before the date of the sale of the unbroached bunkers which could have transferred the property in them.

The mortgagees' claim was based upon three alternative propositions. First, that the property in the bunkers was in the charterers when the bunkers were delivered to the vessel, and remained vested in the charterers throughout the period of the charterparty (the *in rem* claim) and after they were cancelled.

Second, if the first proposition was incorrect, then on the cancellation of the charterparty, the property in the bunkers vested in the owners by virtue of the express provisions of clause 3 of the charterparty.

Third, if both the first and second propositions were incorrect, then on the cancellation of the charterparty, the property in the bunkers vested in the owners by virtue of an implied term in the charterparty to the like effect as clause 3.

Mr Justice Sheen at first instance rejected the first proposition but found for the mortgagees on the second. On appeal from his decision the Court of Appeal agreed with Mr Justice Sheen on the first proposition, disagreed on the second but found for the mortgagees on the third and accordingly dismissed the appeal.

The relevant conditions of the charterparty provided that "the charterers shall provide while on charter for the use and consumption of the bunkers of the vessel... the charterers at the port of delivery and owners at the port of delivery shall make over and pay for all fuel bunkers on board the vessel...".

Clause 3 gave the charterers the option to cancel the charterparty

before the expiry of the two-year period for which it was granted if war were to break out between any two of several named countries and clause 7 provided that if the vessel remained off hire continuously for longer than 25 days, as the Span Terza had in consequence of the arrest.

The only question in the appeal was whether at the date of the sale of the unbroached bunkers they were then the property of the shipowners or the property of the charterers. If they were the property of the shipowners they formed a part of the security of the mortgagees who consequently had a secured claim on the proceeds of their sale; if it was the property of the charterers it was they who were entitled to the proceeds of the sale.

The bunkers had all been paid for by the charterers. The question whether they were the property of the charterers after cancellation depended upon the true construction of the charterparty.

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Surgeon wins damages for distress

Bliss v South East Thames Regional Health Authority
Before Mr Justice Farquharson
[Judgment delivered December 9]

Damages were awarded to an orthopaedic surgeon for the distress, frustration and vexation caused to him by a hospital authority's breach of contract in refusing him to submit to a medical examination and suspending him from duty for his refusal to submit to such an examination.

Mr Justice Farquharson so held in the Queen's Bench Division in giving judgment for the plaintiff, Mr Anthony Rex Bliss in the sum of £9,700 including £2,000 for distress, against the defendant health authority.

Mr Frederic Reynolds, QC and Mr Michael Rrompton for the plaintiff; Mr Jonathan Playford, QC and Mr Charles Gibson for the defendant health authority.

MR JUSTICE FARQUHARSON

said that the plaintiff was a part-time consultant in orthopaedic and accident surgery at the Midway Hospital in Gillingham. He also maintained a private practice.

A professional dispute arose between the plaintiff and a colleague which resulted in a heated exchange of correspondence between them while the plaintiff was on six months' leave of absence in Australia. The colleague, a Mr Hay, referred the correspondence to the regional medical officer, Dr Forsythe, and invited him to suspend the plaintiff from his return.

Dr Forsythe discussed the matter with a subcommittee of the medical staff committee, who indicated that they felt that the plaintiff was a risk to patients as a result of the plaintiff's behaviour.

On his return he was formally required by the chairman of the authority to undergo a medical examination by a psychiatrist. The plaintiff refused, whereupon the

chairman suspended him.

An internal committee of inquiry lifted the suspension and withdrew the requirement for the plaintiff to undergo a medical examination. He continued to receive his salary during the period of his suspension.

The plaintiff claimed damages for distress, frustration and vexation caused to him by the defendant's breach of contract in refusing him to submit to a medical examination and suspending him from duty for his refusal to submit to such an examination.

The plaintiff was entitled to damages for loss of income from his private practice, and to damages arising from the defendant's breach of contract in respect of his distress, frustration and vexation, since it was reasonably foreseeable by the parties that the plaintiff, on being required to undergo a psychiatric examination and being suspended on his refusal, would suffer injury of this kind.

The regional medical officer and the chairman of the authority, although they did not consider the requirement of a medical examination to be particularly grave, must have realised the effect it would have on the plaintiff as well as the subsequent suspension. A professional opinion was peculiarly vulnerable when the balance of his mind was brought into question.

Solicitors: Agents & Court, Maidstone; Bird & Bird.

Abandonment of appeal cannot be withdrawn

Regina v Straker (David)
Once an applicant had lodged a form abandoning his application for leave to appeal, that was treated as a refusal of leave by the full court and could not be withdrawn unless the applicant could subsequently show that it was a nullity because he had not taken a deliberate and informed decision to abandon the application.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Mr Justice Boreham and Mr Justice Nolan) so held on December 8 refusing an application by Mr David Straker to have a notice of abandonment which he had signed on June 1 treated as a nullity.

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The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Mr Justice Boreham and Mr Justice Nolan) so held on December 8 refusing an application by Mr David Straker to have a notice of abandonment which he had signed on June 1 treated as a nullity.

Sentence in breach

Regina v Davis (Lloyd George)
Where a man aged 18 who had pleaded guilty to robbery, burglary and assault occasioning actual bodily harm had been dealt with by way of an order for 160 hours community service, it was wrong in principle to substitute a sentence of six months youth

custody if he breached that order, albeit that he had already completed four-fifths of the service ordered.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Mr Justice Boreham and Mr Justice Nolan) so held on December 8, dismissing an appeal against sentence by Mr Lloyd George Davis.

Questions of parole not for the court

Regina v Dilworth
Questions of parole were not for the Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, said on December 12, when refusing an application by Matthew Brian Dilworth for leave to appeal out of time for an extension of time in which to appeal against sentence of 10 years' imprisonment imposed at the Central Criminal Court, in April 1982 by Judge Aldred, QC, in conviction of six counts of robbery and six counts of possessing a firearm with intent to commit an indictable offence.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, sitting with Mr Justice Farquharson and Mr Justice MacPherson, held that the applicant accepted that when sentence was passed on him it

was in all the circumstances fair and proper. He sought to submit that, as a result of a possible change in parole policy, he and other prisoners convicted of certain types of offences might have to serve longer in prison than seemed probable at the time when he was sentenced.

This was one of a number of such applications which the court considered. Questions of parole were not for the Court of Appeal. Their Lordships had repeatedly said that sentences were imposed by trial judges and reviewed by the Court of Appeal without regard to the impact of possible release on parole.

It followed that it was not ground for appeal that there might be a change in parole policy or

Transfer of debenture free of equities

Hilger Analytical Ltd v Rank Precision Industries Ltd and Others
A debenture could be transferred to a transferee of debentures, subject to equities, that position could be altered by agreement. The debenture in question, as its true construction, did give the debenture holder the right to transfer the debenture free of equities, and as far as the law permitted, it had been drawn so as to approximate to a negotiable instrument.

His Lordship said that, while

he accepted the basic proposition of law that transferees of debentures were subject to equities, that position could be altered by agreement. The debenture in question, as its true construction, did give the debenture holder the right to transfer the debenture free of equities, and as far as the law permitted, it had been drawn so as to approximate to a negotiable instrument.

His Lordship said that, while

1949-50				1948-49				1947-48				1946-47				1945-46				1944-45				1943-44				1942-43				1941-42				1940-41				1939-40				1938-39				1937-38				1936-37				1935-36				1934-35				1933-34				1932-33				1931-32				1930-31				1929-30				1928-29				1927-28				1926-27				1925-26				1924-25				1923-24				1922-23				1921-22				1920-21				1919-20				1918-19				1917-18				1916-17				1915-16				1914-15				1913-14				1912-13				1911-12				1910-11				1909-10				1908-09				1907-08				1906-07				1905-06				1904-05				1903-04				1902-03				1901-02				1900-01				1899-00				1898-99				1897-98				1896-97				1895-96				1894-95				1893-94				1892-93				1891-92				1890-91				1889-90				1888-89				1887-88				1886-87				1885-86				1884-85				1883-84				1882-83				1881-82				1880-81				1879-80				1878-79				1877-78				1876-77				1875-76				1874-75				1873-74				1872-73				1871-72				1870-71				1869-70				1868-69				1867-68				1866-67				1865-66				1864-65				1863-64				1862-63				1861-62				1860-61				1859-60				1858-59				1857-58				1856-57				1855-56				1854-55				1853-54				1852-53				1851-52				1850-51				1849-50				1848-49				1847-48				1846-47				1845-46				1844-45				1843-44				1842-43				1841-42				1840-41				1839-40				1838-39				1837-38				1836-37				1835-36				1834-35				1833-34				1832-33				1831-32				1830-31				1829-30				1828-29				1827-28				1826-27				1825-26				1824-25				1823-24				1822-23				1821-22				1820-21				1819-20				1818-19				1817-18				1816-17				1815-16				1814-15				1813-14				1812-13				1811-12				1810-11				1809-10				1808-09				1807-08				1806-07				1805-06				1804-05				1803-04				1802-03				1801-02				1800-01				1799-00				1798-99				1797-98				1796-97				1795-96				1794-95				1793-94				1792-93				1791-92				1790-91				1789-90				1788-89				1787-88				1786-87				1785-86				1784-85				1783-84				1782-83				1781-82				1780-81				1779-80				1778-79				1777-78				1776-77				1775-76				1774-75				1773-74				1772-73				1771-72				1770-71				1769-70				1768-69				1767-68				1766-67				1765-66				1764-65				1763-64				1762-63				1761-62				1760-61				1759-60				1758-59				1757-58				1756-57				1755-56				1754-55				1753-54				1752-53				1751-52				1750-51				1749-50				1748-49				1747-48				1746-47				1745-46				1744-45				1743-44				1742-43				1741-42				1740-41				1739-40				1738-39				1737-38				1736-37				1735-36				1734-35				1733-34				1732-33				1731-32				1730-31				1729-30				1728-29				1727-28				1726-27				1725-26				1724-25				1723-24				1722-23				1721-22				1720-21				1719-20				1718-19				1717-18				1716-17				1715-16				1714-15				1713-14				1712-13				1711-12				1710-11				1709-10				1708-09				1707-08				1706-07				1705-06				1704-05				1703-04				1702-03				1701-02				1700-01				1699-00				1698-99				1697-98				1696-97				1695-96				1694-95				1693-94				1692-93				1691-92				1690-91				1689-90				1688-89				1687-88				1686-87				1685-86				1684-85				1683-84				1682-83				1681-82				1680-81				1679-80				1678-79				1677-78				1676-77				1675-76				1674-75				1673-74				1672-73				1671-72				1670-71				1669-70				1668-69				1667-68				1666-67				1665-66				1664-65				1663-64				1662-63				1661-62				1660-61				1659-60				1658-59				1657-58				1656-57				1655-56				1654-55				1653-54				1652-53				1651-52				1650-51				1649-50				1648-49				1647-48				1646-47				1645-46				1644-45				1643-44				1642-43				1641-42				1640-41				1639-40				1638-39				1637-38				1636-37				1635-36				1634-35				1633-34				1632-33				1631-32				1630-31				1629-30				1628-29				1627-28				1626-27				1625-26				1624-25				1623-24				1622-23				1621-22				1620-21				1619-20				1618-19				1617-18				1616-17				1615-16				1614-15				1613-14				1612-13				1611-12				1610-11				1609-10				1608-09				1607-08				1606-07				1605-06				1604-05				1603-04				1602-03				1601-02				1600-01				1599-00				1598-99				1597-98				1596-97				1595-96				1594-95				1593-94				1592-93				1591-92				1590-91				1589-90				1588-89				1587-88				1586-87				1585-86				1584-85				1583-84				1582-83				1581-82				1580-81				1579-80				1578-79				1577-78				1576-77				1575-76				1574-75				1573-74				1572-73				1571-72				1570-71				1569-70				1568-69				1567-68				1566-67				1565-66				1564-65				1563-64				1562-63				1561-62				1560-61				1559-60				1558-59				1557-58				1556-57				1555-56				1554-55				1553-54				1552-53				1551-52				1550-51				1549-50				1548-49				1547-48				1546-47				1545-46				1544-45				1543-44				1542-43				1541-42				1540-41				1539-40				1538-39				1537-38				1536-37				1535-36				1534-35				1533-34				1532-33				1531-32				1530-31				1529-30				1528-29				1527-28				1526-27				1525-26				1524-25				1523-24				1522-23				1521-22				1520-21				1519-20				1518-19				1517-18				1516-17				1515-16				1514-15				1513-14				1512-13				1511-12				1510-11				1509-10				1508-09				1507-08				1506-07				1505-06				1504-05				1503-04				1502-03				1501-02				1500-01				1499-00				1498-99				1497-98				1496-97				1495-9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LITIGATION SOLICITOR

Baker & McKenzie in London seek a solicitor with about two years' experience in commercial litigation and/or arbitration. Applicants with a working knowledge of a foreign language in dispute involving the carriage of goods by sea will be preferred. The position offers a competitive salary, opportunity for foreign travel and good prospects in a growing area in the firm's practice.

Please apply in writing with full C.V. to:

Blair Wallace
Partnership Secretary
BAKER & MCKENZIE
Aldwych House, Aldwych, London WC2B 4JP

REAL PROPERTY CITY

Travis Smith, Bradstreet & Co., a medium-sized City Firm with a high quality practice of substantial P.L.C. and other clients, are looking for a bright, personable Solicitor with a sound academic record and experience to work with one of their Property Partners. Applications are sought from those over nine months enrolled but ideally with about two years' post admission experience who wish to be involved not only with heavy weights commercial work but also with a variety of substantial residential and agricultural transactions. Compensation is commensurate with experience and some litigation. To apply for this post, write or telephone to: Travis Smith Ltd, 20-22 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4EJ. Tel: 01-405 6852, quoting Ref: C.B.T.

Reuter Simkin

Commercial Litigation

Bristows, Cooke & Carmichael

Require two solicitors, preferably less than 2 years qualified, to join their expanding Intellectual Property Department. This large Department undertakes complex High Court Litigation for major international and domestic clients.

The ability to accept a high level of responsibility is required as is willingness to travel. A technical background would be an advantage. Excellent salary and conditions.

Reply with full C.V. to Ref: G. Bristows, Cooke & Carmichael, 10 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3BP.

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We are recruiting able and energetic Solicitors to fill new or existing posts in the fields of professional indemnity and/or industrial injury work for Defendants.

Successful candidates will have had 2-4 years litigation experience.

Applications with curriculum vitae should be sent to:

Mr E. J. Skellett
Barlow Lyde & Gilbert
3/5 Dowgate Hill
London EC4R 2SJ

CORNWALL MAGISTRATES' COURTS COMMITTEE

East Penwith, Penwith and Isles of Scilly Petty Sessions Divisions

COURT CLERK/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Grade CC/PAD - Points 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

Applications for the above post are invited from persons who have wide experience in the field of court administration and who are prepared to take the full range of duties of the post.

Candidates should be prepared to undertake the duties of the post in the full range of the Courts without exception.

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Reynolds Johnson & Green

SOLICITORS

LITIGATION SOLICITOR

FOR HIGH COURT WORK

Required for expanding City/Watford Practice

An opportunity arises for a recently qualified Solicitor with a thorough working knowledge of litigation procedure to join a keen young team dealing with an expanding portfolio of commercial litigation.

Application in envelope marked LA should be sent to:

REYNOLDS JOHNSON & GREEN

3 St. Michaels Alley OR Gresham House

Cornhill London EC3V 9DS

01-626 1762 (0923) 50000

CORNWALL

EAST CORNWALL GROUP OF PETTY SESSIONAL DIVISIONS

PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT

CC/PAD POINTS 4/12

£8,373 to £10,941

There is an immediate vacancy on the staff of the Clerk to the East Cornwall Justices whose offices are at Liskeard. The Group comprises the divisions with six courts covering a wide and picturesque area in a popular holiday district.

The post is held in seniority after the Deputy Clerk to the Justices and will be held in seniority after the Deputy Clerk to the Justices.

Applicants should be prepared to undertake the duties of the post in the full range of the Courts without exception.

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CITY WORK

£10-15,000

Two career-minded solicitors wishing to broaden their existing experience by exposure to quality of work usually found in larger practices, are sought by City Firm. A junior post is open to someone having around twelve months post-qualified experience and the other position to a more senior person - say three years admitted. The company commercial department currently

Edited by Peter Dear

Radio 3

Piano Trios by Mozart and Brahms. The Mozart B, the Trio in E, K. 496, and the Rimeuse is the Trio in G minor, Op. 101.5
15 Midday Concert (t) BBC Scottish S.O. Part 1: Rimsky-Korsakov, Rachmaninov. The Rimsky-Korsakov is the Piano Concerto No. 2, The Snow Maiden, and the Rachmaninov is the Piano Concerto No. 4 in G minor, with Leslie Howard as soloist.
02 News.
05 Midday Concert (s) Part 2: Vaughan Williams The Symphony No 5 in D.F.
50 Choral Concert (s) Helen Kaskamunk (t) Music for 2 gutters: Soter, Alferitz, Grinados.
Music in the Night (t) Boccherini, Ives, Mahler.
09 Anthony Goldstone (t) with the

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Radio 4

Music from Renaissance Italy. (7)
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Poster hasesed examines the
thinking of the Think Tank
between 1971 and 83.

85 Music of Eight Decades. (7)
Recorded concert Part 1: Weill,
Wolfgang Rihm. With Sarah
Walker (soprano), Neil Jenkins
(tenor) and David Wilson-
Johnson (bass-baritone) and
Terry Edwards (bass). The Weill
work is the Berliner Requiem
and the Rihm is the first
performance of Silence to the

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Hayday's (f) by Chris Miller. In the last visit to Hayday's, the wine bar is invaded by feminists. Concert (f) Part 2: Henze. Voices (Nos 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22). Messiaen at 75, (f) Music on records. Orlando Gibbons (f) Reconstructed Verse Anthems The complete Webern (f) Orchestral music and a cantata. News.

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Paco Peña as Manuel de Falla
(Radio 4, 8.05pm)

N VARIATIONS

MANNEL As London except:
Starts 12.00-12.10pm
30.1.00 Mon. & Tues. 4.15pm

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V As London except: 10.25 am Travel Log. 11.15 Poetry of Disasters. 11.30-11.35 Cartoon. 12.30-1.00 Survival. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Beverly

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TV WALES As HTV West except:
6.00 pm-6.35 Wales

1. *Phragmites* (Common Reed)

WILTSHIRE As London except:
 11.25am Greatest
 11.15-11.35 That Girl, 12.30pm
 One of the Boys, 1.20 News, 1.30-
 Calendar at Your Service, 5.15-45
 Festival, 6.00 Crossroads, 7.00-7.30
 Emmerdale Farm, 11.00 Film: Desperate

SCREEN ON THE HILL 4.35 3.50
James Stewart Grace Kelly
Hithecock's **REAR WINDOW** PG
2.20, 4.40 7.00, 9.15 Lk Bn
Hollywood **FROM HERE TO MEMPH**

Entertainments

SCREEN ON THE HILL 435 3366
James Stewart, Grace Kelly
Hillbilly's REAR WINDOW (PG)
2.00, 4.00, 7.00, 9.15 Lic. Bus. Seal
bookable Club show end month

WARNER WEST END LEIC SQ 433
0791 Richard Attenborough's FILM
GANDHI (PG) Doors 2.00, 6.45pm
No Advance Booking

EXHIBITIONS

CONTEMPORARY VENETIAN ARTISTS: presented by The British Council in association with the Polytechnic of Central London, at the Regent Street Gallery, P.C.L. 309 Regent Street W. Admission free. Open 9.00-20.00. Mon-Fri: 10.00, 13.00, Sat.

YOUNG BLOOD. Open today 10-7. Adm £3.12 after 4.00 Tur-Fri: 10-7. Galleries, Barbican Centre, EC2 8.5. 4131

***PRINCE ALBERT** his life and work. * Royal College of Art, Daily 10-6.30 Wednesday 10-8.

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY 43 Old Bond St.
W1. Presents 6176. Ideas for Christmas
Present. Until 23 Dec Mon-Fri
9.30-5.30 Sat 11-7

ALBANY GALLERY 1, Bury St. S.
W1. Art. Swi. An exhibition of
watercolour drawings of SEA
SHELLS by William Hamilton
Caird (1819 - 1997) £100 - £350
Until 23 Dec 10-5 Mon - Fri &
Mon - Fri & Sat 11-7

ANTHONY DUFFAY 9 & 23 Dering
St. W1. Decades of British
Paintings, drawings and sculpture
1890-1963. Betan. Bomber. Gilbert

and George, Kniff, Lobs, etc.

BETHNAL GREEN Museum of Child-
hood, Cambridge Heath Road, E.2.
Spirit of Christmas. Adm. free.
10-4. 10-4. 10-4. 2-26. 2-26.
Fridays. Recorded info. 01-581 4894.

BRITISH LIBRARY, Q. Russell St.
The British Periodicals
Printer 1700-1800. Until 25 Jan
The Mirror of the World: anti-
quarian maps. Until 31 Dec. Wkdays
10-5. Sats 2-30-6. Adm free.

BROMPTON GALLERY, 15 Brompton
Avenue, Knightsbridge, SW1. 861
1078. First London exhibition of
paintings and drawings by the
17th-century French painter, Louis
Léon-Ercole. Sat 10-1.

BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork St. W1
01-754 7964. James Reeve. Paint-
ings and Watercolours.

CRAFTS COUNCIL GALLERY, 12
Waterloo Place, Lower Regent St.
London SW1. Tel 01 930 4811.
Paper as image: New Works in Paper
by Ian Cross. 10.30 to 5.30 Sat
Dec. Tue - Sat 10-5, Sun 2-5 closed
Mon.

FIELDSORNE GALLERIES 63, Concor-
d Road, W8. 01-896 3500. YOUNG
ARTISTS. Until Dec 23.

FINE ART SOCIETY, 148 New Bond
St. W1. 01-476 1114.
J. W. GARDLJ and James McBEY

FISCHER FINE ART 30 King St. St. James's, SW1. S59 3962. An Anthology of European Architectural Drawings 18th to 20th Century Until 22 Dec. Mon-Fri 10-6.30.

GIMPEL FILS 30 Davies St. W1. 493 2488. New French Painting A joint exhibition with Riverside Studios Crisp Rd. W6.

